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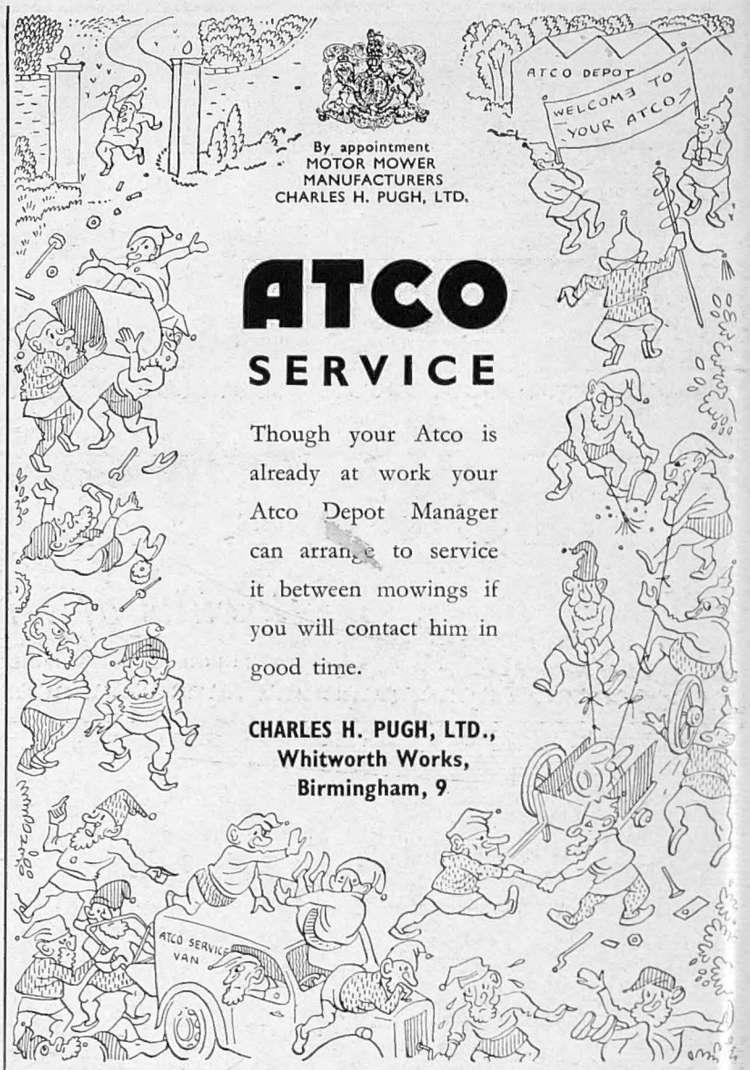

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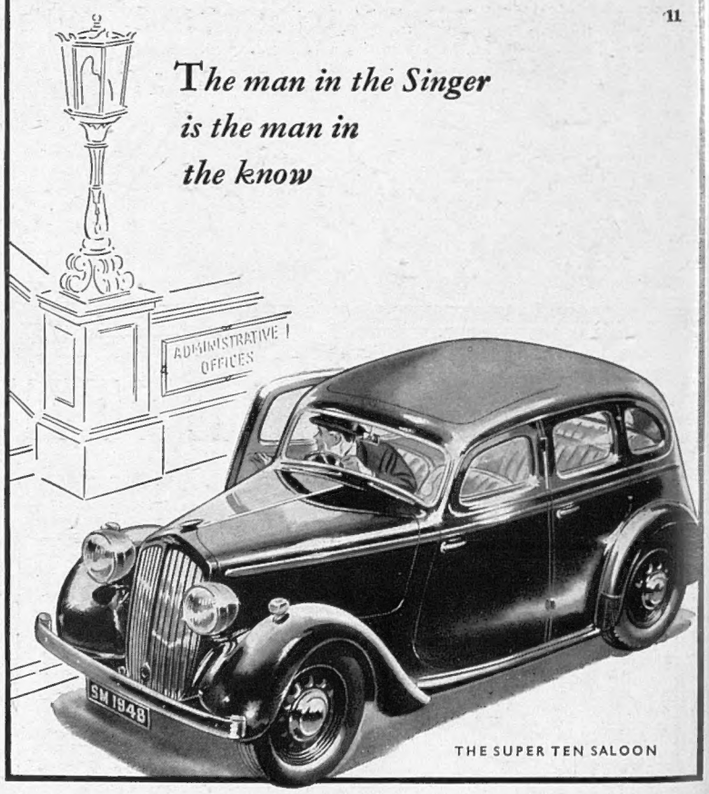

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Volume CXCII No. 2512 The SPHERE, London, March 27, 1948

THE SPHERE
With which is incorporated "THE GRAPHIC"
The Empire's Illustrated Weekly

"WE MUST BE PREPARED TO PAY THE PRICE OF PEACE"—PRESIDENT TRUMAN GIVES HIS MOMENTOUS MESSAGE TO CONGRESS ON "THE CRITICAL NATURE OF THE SITUATION IN EUROPE": The President recommended the speedy passage of the Marshall Aid programme and the adoption of universal military training to "give courage to every free government." Seated behind Mr. Truman was the leader of the Senate, Republican Arthur Vandenburg

The countries of Europe, still raw from the ravages and upsets of war, and open, as seldom before, to threats against their independence, have been offered by the United States a dollar life-line. Last week it became clear that that life-line in the form of Marshall Aid would not be enough. America might have to be prepared to support dollars with force of arms. That, in essence, was what President Truman told a joint session of Congress in the most momentous announcement he has yet made to the American people. This message to Congress, stating that the United States "must be prepared to pay the price of peace," was acclaimed on both sides of the Atlantic, and the American Press, stern critics of the Truman administration, were loud in their praises of this calling of a halt to Communist aggression. To American politicians now preparing for the Presidential election campaign, the thought of having to pass unpopular conscription measures may arouse deep misgiving, but it appears that the nation as a whole accepts the new burdens as inevitable

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A LONDON NEWSLETTER

1, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.

Brussels Treaty.—Twenty-three years ago the Locarno Pact was hailed as an outstanding achievement. It was considered a great advance on any earlier attempt to outlaw war and to prepare for a United States of Europe. Briand declared that the nations at last had begun to "speak European." Chamberlain said no less, and King George V expected peace for many years, perhaps for ever. Locarno failed. But that is no reason for refusing to regard the Brussels Treaty as a very notable event, as every statesman in America, England and France and Benelux has, without party reservation, done. The Brussels Treaty is definitely a stage further on the long road. If it be prematurely born, the child of Panic out of Economic Pressure, it is outwardly a healthy child with all its limbs sound. And Mr. Truman very timeously has stood its godfather and promised a rich gift of American preparedness and aid, subject to confirmation. And if America puts isolationism away in a cupboard, can we British regret that we once more have signed away our little share in that short-term luxury? We who are divided from Europe only by a little moat? No doubt, what each of the five nations promises in this treaty—pledging their peoples—is a mouthful. If an aggressor attacks Dutch troops overseas, we must *march* to their aid, without waiting on concerted plans. If our troops in Greece are attacked, the Belgians must answer our call at once. It was easier to decide to march when Holland or Belgium were invaded, for that meant that the invader was already inside our palisades. Still, this *is* a promising child, though its future, immediate and remote, seems to stand or fall by the fulfilment of the promises of its American godfather. And, even so, the efficiency of the machinery of its provisions will inspire no complete confidence until the attitude and contribution of the other members of the British Commonwealth are known and established. It is something—a great deal—to know that the Western Democracies have outlawed isolationism and neutrality in principle and practice. But strong arms must hold the baby throughout its nursery days until it can walk and fend for itself. Without those strong arms, it will lose its health, become a rag-doll, even a red rag to a bull.

"The Theory of Peace."—Just before the U.S. Senate sent the Aid Bill to the House of Representatives with a convincing majority, Mr. Byrnes solemnly warned America that she might have to face an international crisis with Russia within a few weeks. He made it perfectly clear that if Russia "intervenes" in Italy, Greece, France or Turkey as she did in Czechoslovakia, the U.S. would "act immediately" to maintain the *status quo* until the Security Council could investigate. He made no bones about it. He did not hedge his phrases. He meant active intervention by force of arms; he meant *war*—within a few weeks. Mr. Taft *heard* him, if we only read his words. Mr. Taft took him up in that sense; for he said: "We have to work on the theory that there is going to be peace. There is no sense in appropriating $5,500,000,000 for European recovery if there is going to be war in a few weeks." *World war in a few weeks!* That possibility, voiced by Mr. Byrnes unequivocally, jolts you and me and other good, easy men, does it not? We were "good, easy men" in the spring of 1914, and even in the summer of 1939. Mr. Byrnes, a realist with a good memory, perhaps found the coincidences of 1938/9 with 1948 too pointful. The same "sickening technique," the same victim. The aggressor again, who "does not understand English" and is not moved by words, but *may* be impressed by action. The last two World Wars were hastened by inaction and brought nearer by appeasements and words, and perhaps Mr. Byrnes decided "*Il faut en finir.*" But Mr. Taft is quite right. We *have* to work on the theory that there will be peace. And he has more justification for optimism than in 1914 and 1939, when the aggressor had *all* the armaments. To-day the atom bomb is the great deterrent to adventures of that kind. But Mr. Byrnes knows something that we don't all know about wars. A day comes when one tiny "incident" snatches out of the power of men—even supermen—the power to control war or peace. The juggernaut with which aggressors play takes charge; the brake suddenly seizes up. Mr. Byrnes knows that, and I think his words were as near an approach to action, as near a condemnation of words and appeasement, as a statesman could go. But Mr. Taft is quite right. We must work on the theory that there will be peace, or else human life and endeavour are to-day written off as sheer bedlam, lunacy, poppycock. If Atom World War breaks out before May, it *is* rather comic to rehabilitate Europe's economy, to create Knights of the Garter, to brush your teeth or shave your chin. All the same, I think both Mr. Byrnes and Mr. Taft said a mouthful.

THE "NOES" HAVE IT—VOTING IN PROGRESS AT THE B.M.A. AS DOCTORS REGISTER THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE HEALTH ACT: Nearly 400 doctors from all over Britain, attending a special delegate meeting of the British Medical Association at B.M.A. House in London last week, gave unanimous approval to their leaders' resolution that it was not in the best interest of the public or of medicine for doctors to enter the National Health Service until changes were made. A Scottish amendment declaring willingness to reopen negotiations with the Government and empowering the B.M.A. representatives to make concessions providing that an amending Act is passed to ensure that a wholetime salaried service will not be introduced, found no supporter in debate. It was overwhelmingly defeated. In the words of Dr. H. Guy Dain, chairman of the B.M.A. Council, the doctors will "stand as a united profession outside the health scheme" unless amendments are made. But, he added, they are "ready to enter into any discussions directed to making it possible for the medical profession to co-operate with the Government."

New K.G.s.—There has of late been a multiple creation of K.G.s; and in a week or two, with the rest, they will figure in a notable piece of pageantry and commemoration in St. George's Chapel, Windsor. Unless the Golden Fleece, there is no more ancient and splendid an Order than that of the Garter. Our Press must have taken singularly little interest in the new appointments in March. I read the papers fairly carefully, but the news entirely escaped my eye. At that time, I was reading Trollope's *Prime Minister*. The Duke of Omnium was Premier; there was a Garter to be given. *He* himself was the obvious choice. He refused to take it for himself and, rejecting the advice of his Mentor of St. Bungay, he recommended to the Queen Lord Earlybird, after passing sleepless nights over his decision. In those days the bestowal of a Garter was a tremendous event for a Premier. The Duke of St. Bungay made it clear that Lord Earlybird was not the type. He was a retiring, shabby, little-known man. He had devoted his life to philanthropic schemes and he was a good man through and through. Those were his sole claims to distinction! St. Bungay, without snobbery or too much exactitude, laid it down that a K.G. (temp. Victoria) must have other qualities besides virtue. He must have "an air," he must be personally distinguished and capable of adorning the robe he might wear. In short, Lord Earlybird didn't quite do. Our world has changed since Trollope's day. The days are past when a K.G. wears his star on his morning coat. The last to do so was the eighth Duke of Beaufort, who died in 1899. Nowadays there are not many opportunities for display and for throwing a graceful leg. Nor could you be quite certain that the nobleman selected would be free from the humiliating task of helping to wash up the dirty plates on at least one day a week. So perhaps virtue alone is the criterion to-day, and Lord Earlybird would not be found wanting. The world is in the melting-pot and indeed simmering over. But (as the Americans say) we must proceed on the assumption that Atom War is *not* due in May, and that being so, the existing institutions must be kept going and among them the Order of the Garter. Even the hereditary system, though tottering, is still in existence at the time of writing, and until it is eliminated, must be recruited with all the care and dignity and seriousness of former days, when it meant something.

Easter.—Easter falls pretty early this year. Normally the end of March is too early to afford us that contrast with winter, that rebirth in Nature with which we associate, and for which we value perhaps above all festivals, the Easter holidays. This year it is not so. I can recall no year in which we have enjoyed so much hot sunshine, such cloudless skies, anticipated so many of the joys and thrills of April. The hardy have bathed, the less hardy have paddled and sun-bathed, some of the April flowers are already withered and May flowers are all a-blowing. So we come to Easter with our thirst half-slaked, our appetite lacking the keen edge. The open road is for the robust, the queue-lover. Those who shun crowds must still make do with the familiar scene, the too restricted cabbage patch. Yet even here, small and intimately known as it is, there is hope and promise, new green hopes pushing up through the old brown earth, and (keen edge blunted or no) Nature is a sphinx and often a juggernaut, and winter's hounds sometimes swiftly emerge from covert and leap at spring's traces. You never know your luck at Easter. You may yet have to await your joyous contrast until Whitsun.

Steel Components.—For ever stern necessity makes a nonsense of all [illegible] resolves to improve the taste of the nation. Without more buildings, we cannot hope to secure better results from agriculture at home. Without better results we shall go very short of food and even nearer bankruptcy. So the bombproof shelters are to be used to produce sheets of steel for the needs of the farmer. And since industry needs every square foot of new steel, who can quarrel with the decision to use up old steel plates for so essential a purpose? Yet how that decision must strike terror in the hearts of the Amenity Groups in Bureaucracy and outside of it. In a few months' time we may expect every sort of shack to spring up in go-as-you-please fashion over the face of the country, already spoiled or hitherto miraculously spared. The first principle of architecture, never surrendered, yet never put in practice since the industrial revolution, is as unattainable as ever—the principle of employing local material and local craftsmanship to ensure harmony, to enable domestic architecture to melt into its landscape setting—as it did in the nineteenth century and before. Here and now by a stroke of the pen, an inevitable stroke, it is ordained that what remains of the beauty of England do be and become a Slough, a Peacehaven, a rash of mass-produced scrap-iron. And Sense, Sanity, Taste, Patriotism, Decency, are estopped from lodging an objection. Necessity knows no law.

THE OLD STAGER

Royal Occasions

PRINCESS MARGARET IN GLASGOW

Princess Elizabeth with the Guards: The Queen at the Paul Nash Concert

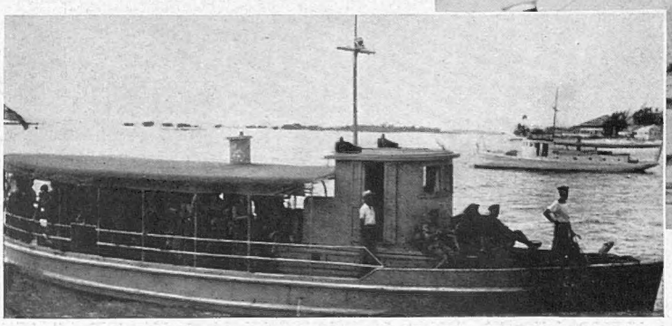
PRINCESS MARGARET RECEIVES THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF GLASGOW ON BEHALF OF THE HIGHLAND LIGHT INFANTRY, OF WHICH REGIMENT SHE IS COLONEL-IN-CHIEF: The Princess is seen receiving the casket containing the scroll of freedom from the hands of Sir Hector McNeill, the Lord Provost. Standing on the left is Major-General A. D. Telfer-Smollett, Colonel of the Regiment. The Princess's speech was broadcast to Palestine, where the 1st Battalion of the Highland Light Infantry (the City of Glasgow Regiment) is now serving. The Princess expressed regret that the 2nd Battalion is to be disbanded. On her arrival in Glasgow Princess Margaret became indisposed, and two doctors were called to her suite, but she carried out the greater part of her day's programme. In the evening she visited the H.L.I. Club

PRINCESS ELIZABETH INSPECTING THE 2ND BATTALION, THE GRENADIER GUARDS: Her Royal Highness standing on the saluting daïs with Colonel E. H. Goulburn, D.S.O. The Princess, who is Colonel of the Regiment, was making a farewell inspection before the 2nd Battalion's departure for Germany

THE QUEEN AT THE TATE GALLERY: Her Majesty, accompanied by Mr. John Rothenstein, Director of the Tate, as she arrived for the concert held in memory of the British painter Paul Nash. One hundred and fifty-four of Nash's oils and water-colours are now on view to the public in the Gallery, this special exhibition following those of the works of Van Gogh and Chagall. The Queen has one of Paul Nash's oil paintings in her private collection

THE GLOUCESTERS GO TO HONDURAS
THE SOMERSETS LEAVE INDIA

Britain may have a vastly reduced Army, but what there is of it is very much on the move. On the facing page is recorded the departure of units from Haifa, Palestine, and on this page the Gloucesters are seen on arrival at Belize, British Honduras, where they made an effective show of force in mid-March following Guatemala's imperialistic talk about invading the colony. The Somerset Light Infantry, whose ceremonial departure from Bombay was recorded in a recent issue of THE SPHERE, have now arrived in England. At Liverpool, where the liner *Empress of Australia* docked, the Somersets were accorded a civic reception in recognition of the fact that they were the last troops to leave the Indian Dominion. The Somersets brought home with them a magnificent silver model of the Gateway of India, the monumental structure erected at Bombay to commemorate the landing of King George V and Queen Mary when they visited India in 1911. The model will now be a permanent reminder for the regiment of its place of honour in the British rearguard.



MEN OF THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT ARRIVE AT FORT GEORGE, BELIZE: A detachment being brought ashore in a harbour boat from the cruiser "Sheffield," which rushed them over to British Honduras in the face of Guatemala's imperialistic threat to the British colony

COMING ASHORE AT FORT GEORGE: Men of the Gloucestershire Regiment on the quayside at Belize, British Honduras, after arriving in the colony in the cruiser "Sheffield." The Gloucesters immediately took up defensive positions near the Guatemalan frontier, and, incidentally, engaged in a mock battle with the Royal Marines, just to get rid of the stiffness after the sea voyage. On March 15 Vice-Admiral Sir William Tennant announced that he was leaving British Honduras in the flagship *Sheffield*, and stated that the defence of the colony was now perfectly satisfactorily in the hands of the Army. It has since been announced officially that the 2nd Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment will remain at least another three months in British Honduras

A BUSY DAY FOR THE PORT OF BELIZE: *Left*—**The headquarters of the British Honduras Volunteer Guard, which was placed at the disposal of the British troops.** *Right*—**Another scene on the quayside as our men came ashore. In addition to this show of force, the Government sent a strongly-worded note to Guatemala**

WHEN THE "EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA" DOCKED IN LIVERPOOL: The colours of the 1st Battalion the Somerset Light Infantry being marched off behind the band when the battalion arrived home from India, the last regiment to leave the Hindu Dominion. The rest of the battalion watched the start of the colour party's march from the liner's decks

A REMINDER OF A BLOODLESS REARGUARD ACTION: The Lord Mayor of Liverpool, Alderman W. T. Lancashire, on board the liner "Empress of Australia," where he welcomed the 1st Battalion the Somerset Light Infantry on its return from India. He is inspecting the silver model of the Gateway of India, which was presented to the unit at Bombay in token of the fact that they were the last regiment to leave India. Standing on the right is Lieut.-Colonel J. Platt, D.S.O., of the Somerset Light Infantry

BRITAIN BEGINS TO PULL OUT OF PALESTINE

Advance Units Embark at Haifa for the Journey Home

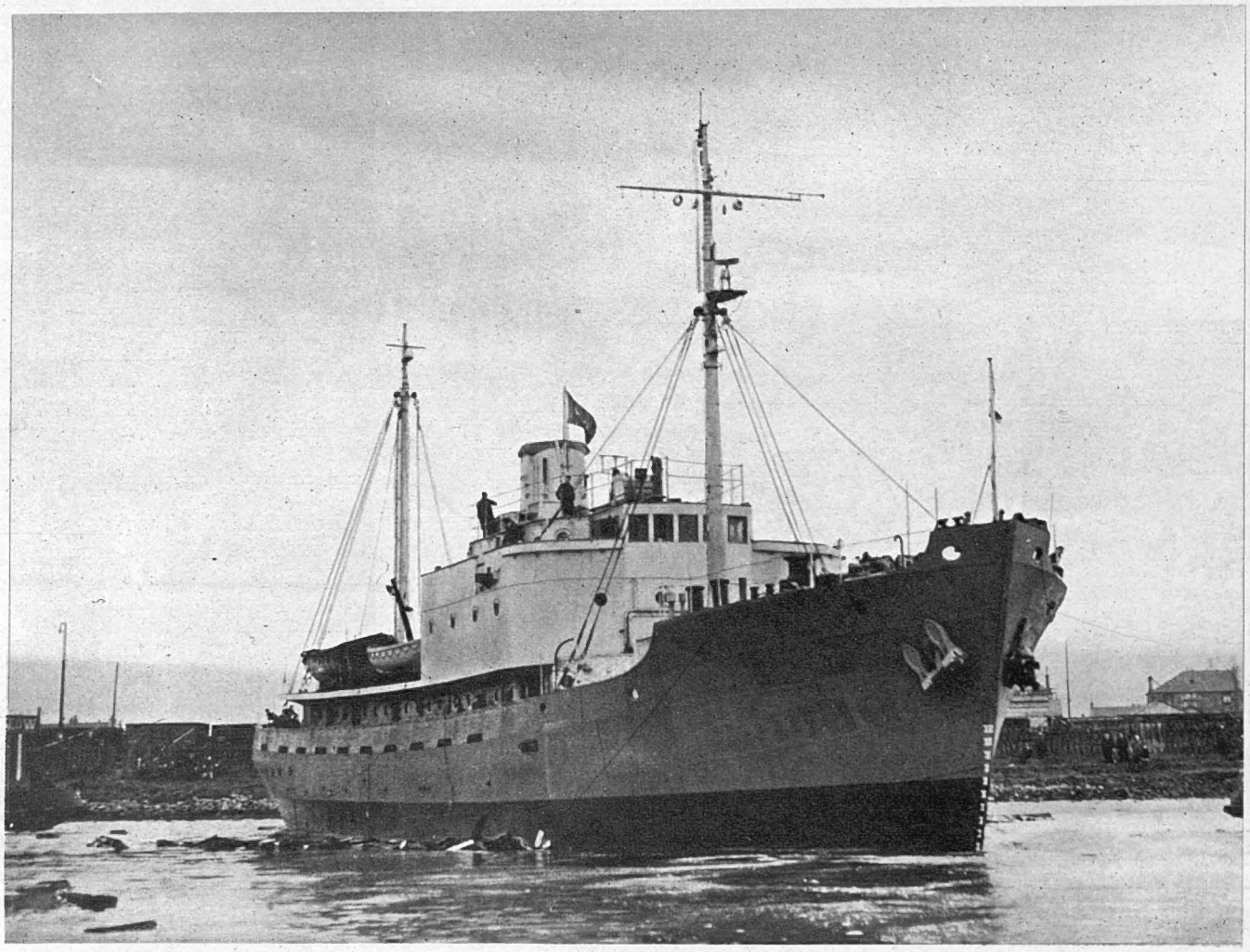
BRITISH TROOPS LOOK THEIR LAST ON THE TROUBLED LAND WHERE THEY HAVE FOR SO LONG BEEN THE SCAPEGOATS OF JEW AND ARAB : A unit complete with kit waiting aboard a lighter in Haifa Harbour to be conveyed out to the transport "Samaria," which is bringing them home to England. Before they were allowed to embark on the "Samaria" divers were sent below the water-line to examine the hull of the 20,000-ton vessel, as it was feared that frogmen might have repeated their successful efforts of last year when they attached limpet mines to one of the ships engaged in taking illegal refugees to the Cyprus camps. The evacuation of the British Army from Palestine is no light matter because of the inadequate port facilities, and for this reason a large quantity of military equipment is having to be left behind

IN CHARGE OF SECURITY IN THE HAIFA AREA : Major-General H. C. Stockwell, Commanding the Sixth Airborne Division, has the responsibility for securing the safe embarkation of the British troops. The evacuation scheme is not easy to operate, as there is congestion at the port of Haifa, and military movements have coincided with the loading of citrus exports

THE JEEPS THEY LEFT BEHIND THEM : British Army transport drawn up in a vehicle park on the outskirts of Haifa. Such surplus military equipment is being sold in order to obviate the necessity for bringing it home to England. Many vehicles are understood to have been bought by representatives of the Jewish Agency. Wherever British units have evacuated Palestinian towns it has been found that the Arabs descend in force and carry away lightly-guarded equipment. It seems likely that if civil war develops quantities of bought or stolen British stores will play a part in the campaign

ON THE ROAD FROM PARDESS HANNA TO HAIFA : A convoy of the 87th Airborne Field Regiment passing a civilian bus as the regiment set out for its port of embarkation. The regiment has been in camp at Pardess Hanna, and has had as strenuous a time as any unit involved in the struggle. Drawn up just off the road is an armoured vehicle charged with the task of protecting the convoy

BOUND FOR BLIGHTY : From the deck of the troop transport "Samaria" W.A.A.F.S wave a welcome to British troops coming aboard in Haifa Harbour before leaving for England. In the next few weeks, as the evacuation gathers pace, Haifa will present a scene of incessant activity and security efforts will have to be redoubled



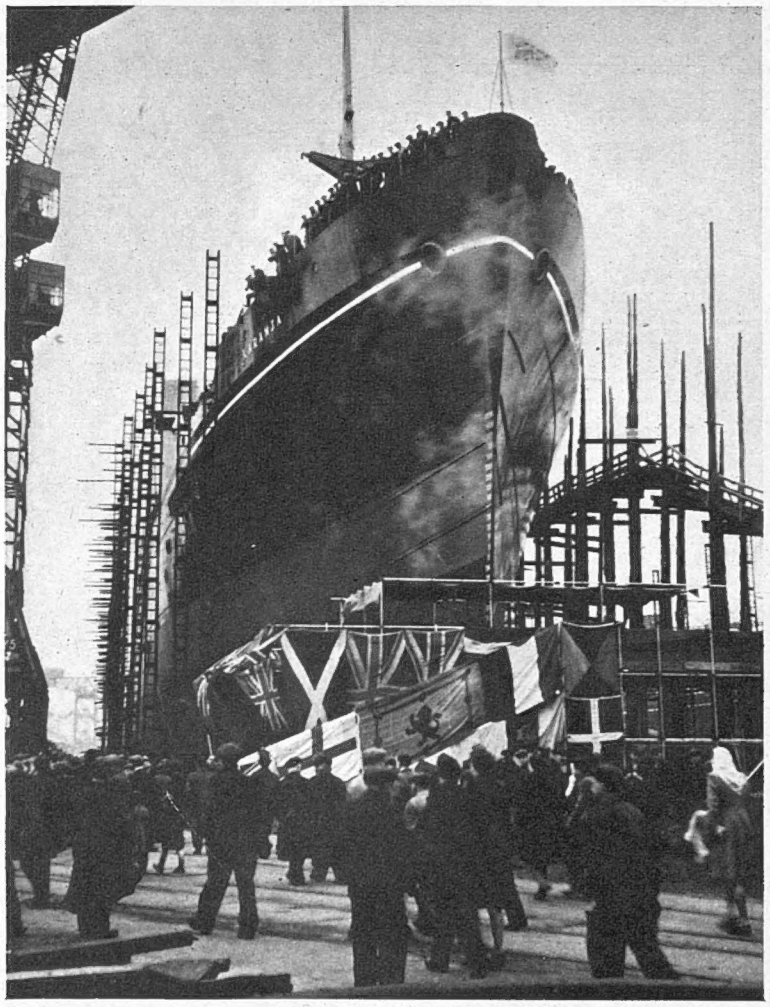
THE LAUNCH OF THE SUBMARINE RESCUE VESSEL "RECLAIM": The ship afloat on the Clyde after leaving the slipway at the Renfrew Yard of William Simons and Co. The "Reclaim" is the first of the Navy's deep-water diving and submarine rescue ships. She can carry apparatus capable of surfacing any but the most badly crippled submarine. A device for getting air through to entrapped men is under consideration, and may be fitted later. H.M.S. "Reclaim" was named and launched by Lady Lillicrap, wife of Sir Charles Lillicrap, the Director of Naval Construction. In a speech at the launching luncheon Sir Charles pointed to the record of the builders, who, he said, had built forty-five warships and salvage vessels during the Second World War

A SPATE OF NEW LAUNCHINGS

On the Clyde, on the Mersey, and at Belfast

Of recent weeks there has been a spate of new launchings and it would seem probable that last year's fine total of 1,202,000 tons launched in Britain and Ireland will be eclipsed in 1948. Actually eight ships went down the slipways in Scottish shipyards during a recent three-day period of peak activity, the most interesting of the new craft being H.M.S. *Reclaim*, the Navy's deep-water submarine rescue vessel. *Reclaim* is the outcome of a considerable amount of development work undertaken by the Admiralty since the end of hostilities. If she had been in existence at the time of the *Thetis* disaster in Liverpool Bay, the high-speed surfacing of that ill-starred submarine would have created no problems. The equipment for this type of heavy salvage work will include an under-water bolt-firing gun. This gun, by means of explosive propellant, will fire a metal tube into the skin of a submarine, through which air could be forced into a flooded compartment, driving out the water and causing a sunken submarine to refloat.

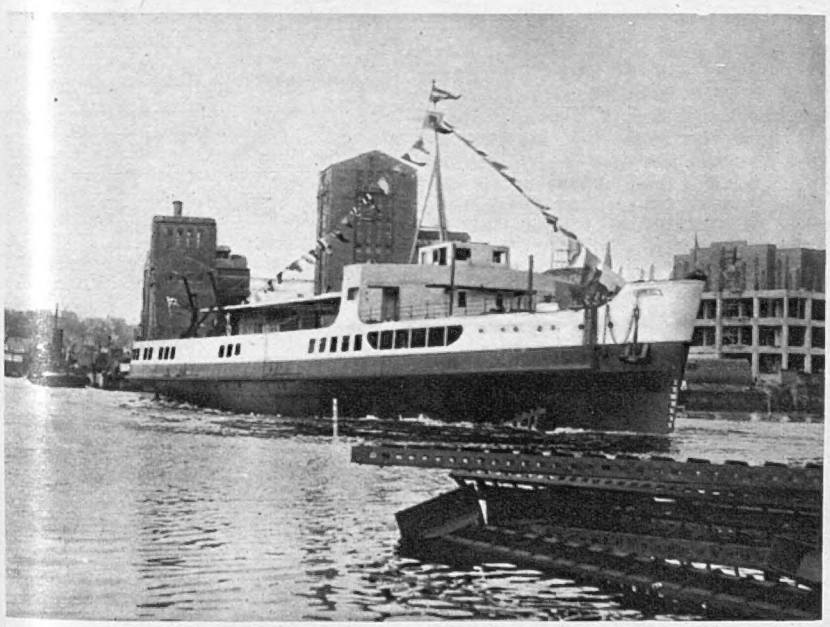
At the inaugural luncheon following the launch of the *Reclaim*, Sir Charles Lillicrap declared that with Admiralty consent the builders had passed the plans of the vessel to a foreign Government, who contemplated building a similar ship.



A BRITISH INDIA LINER LAUNCHED AT LINTHOUSE AND AN ISLE OF MAN STEAM PACKET LAUNCHED ON THE MERSEY: *Left*—The "Karanja" on the stocks at the Stephens Yard before she entered the waters of the Clyde. *Right*—The "Snaefell" in charge of tugs after being named and launched by Mrs. J. R. Quayle, wife of the deputy chairman of the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company, at Cammell Laird's, Birkenhead

The association between owner and shipbuilder would seem to be more enduring than most business relationships. Mention of the Cunard White Star Line immediately brings to mind John Brown's, while the connection between Harland and Wolff and the Union Castle Company is no less familiar. Speaking at the luncheon following the launch of the S.S. *Karanja*, Mr. A. S. MacLellan, a director of Alexander Stephen and Sons, Linthouse, declared that the *Karanja* was the twenty-second vessel built by A. Stephen and Sons for the British India Company. The association between the two companies, he said, began eighty-seven years ago. The *Karanja* and her sister-ship *Kampala*, which was completed at Linthouse last year, will take the place of two other Stephen-built vessels lost to the British India Company during the war, the first *Karanja* while serving as an assault ship. They will maintain the Indian Ocean service between Bombay and Africa. The *Karanja* is 480 ft. in length, 66 ft. in breadth and has a gross tonnage of 10,300.

TO OPERATE ON THE NEW YORK-JAVA SERVICE—THE NEW CARGO LINER "SOESTDYK" ABOUT TO BE TOWED TO HER FITTING-OUT BASIN AFTER BEING LAUNCHED AT BELFAST BY HARLAND AND WOLFF LTD.: The new vessel is the first of two cargo liners which are being built for the New York-Java run of the Holland-America Line. She is a single-screw turbine ship of 10,100 tons gross. The *Soestdyk* has a well-raked rounded stem and a cruiser stern, and will have two masts and a single funnel. There is accommodation for twelve passengers in four single-berth and four two-berth rooms, each with a private bathroom. There are three big cargo holds forward and three aft



A DOUBLE LAUNCHING AT THE LEVEN SHIPYARD OF DENNY AND BROTHERS: The passenger motor-ship "Southsea" (above) dressed overall after her launching. Together with her sister-ship "Brading" (on right), they are the first new craft for British Railways, Southern Region. The two motor-ships, each of 850 tons gross, took the water within twenty minutes of each other. They are intended for the Portsmouth-Ryde (Isle of Wight) service, and they will each have twin screws driven by two sets of Sulzer Diesel engines. Identical in appearance, each ship has a length of 195 ft., a breadth of 46 ft., and a moulded depth of 18 ft., the exceptional beam providing large deck space for passenger accommodation. They are designed to operate in shallow waters, and their service speed is 14½ knots. "The encroachment of the oil engine on a province hitherto the practical monopoly of paddles is worth noting," said Sir Maurice Denny, Bart., after the launch. "Where ports of call are numerous its excellent starting and stopping and manœuvring qualities have made a strong appeal, and when driven by steam engines, as is normal, upkeep is low"

THE "BRADING" TAKES THE WATER: One of the two new passenger motor-ships built for British Railways seen after entering the Clyde. At a speed of 14½ knots these vessels should maintain a fast schedule on the Spithead run

SOME PEOPLE CALL IT WITCH-HUNTING

The New Move to Combat Moscow's Influence

By FERDINAND TUOHY

THE capacity of the genuine democracies for swift forgetfulness is passing great. One can almost hear the Communist policy-makers chuckling over the depth of Western reaction to the Czech tragedy: "That 's all right! They 'll soon forget about it! They always do."

True bill. We get upset or are even shocked by some fresh event or development, yet all too quickly relapse to the normal state of passiveness infused by the hope that So-and-So will now stop causing us anxiety. Most earnestly is there agreement that Panslav-Communism is attempting to do nothing less than end abruptly and ferociously the kind of life we inherited and like. Most earnestly are we in accord that Stalin and his Fifth Column are repeating Hitlerism in most of its essentials. But we lapse back into passiveness.

We have just entered another period between Communist coups, and it is the fervent hope of all Reds, Cryptos and Fellow-travellers, whoever and wherever they may be, that we shall once again lullaby-off softly, the while they get down to fresh business, boring and drilling into the State, and fastening their tentacles on ever more "up the garden path" cases and levers of command. They are encouraged to think this way because none of the free peoples of Western Europe have yet passed to the counter-attack on Communism.

This has been ruled out because, apparently, it would transgress the conception and code of democratic political liberty: freedom of speech, thought, word and religion. That the Communists are themselves out to murder all four, except according to their dogma, does not arise. They must be allowed to do and say what they please, come and go as they please, and if anyone raises a syllable against their doing so, up goes the cry of "witch-hunter!"

That the loudest cries of "witch-hunting" come from the Cryptos has not, as yet, been much noticed outside the United States.

So it has been—up to the end of Jan Masaryk "for liberty." Is there now to be a change?

For my part I cannot help feeling that something new is in the wind. It would be easy to pin this to the birth of Western Union, with its uniting of the five original contracting parties against political infiltration. Yet I 'm inclined to look upon the change more in the light of an awakening of the individual. Let me instance a small crop of news items in support.

There was the refusal of Lady Megan Lloyd George to sit on the platform of the International Women's Day Committee, at Friends House (note this), Euston Road. It was followed by a similar backing-out by the wife of the American Ambassador, and the gestures are not to be under-estimated. The lead is given to public personages to the end that they make closest inquiry into the membership and activities of every organisation before lending their patronage.

Next there was the appearance of a Minister's secretary on a short list compiled by a Civil Service purge-the-Communists committee. The young woman laughed the matter off, which is the nonchalant fashion in such circumstances. Incidentally, the compiling of such a list is called "witch-hunting." Nevertheless, when the B.B.C. summarily dismissed three members of their European Service, one did feel the laying-on of a fresh hand.

Nor was further freshness long delayed. Up rose General Sir Brian Robertson in Berlin, and told the Occupation heads assembled that the Communists made a noise out of all proportion to their true weight and numbers; and up rose the British Government's Lord Pakenham, at Westminster, and told the Lords . . . but if words were only followed by acts in keeping!

"And now the unfortunate Government of Finland is being embraced with the kiss of death, and invited to visit Bluebeard's mansion and inspect its predecessor's remains. . . . One moral is that any organisation—Government, *trade union*, or any other kind—should not let Communists join them, or they will sooner or later be eaten up. It is the duty of democrats everywhere to stop the seizure of key positions by the Communists."

The Labour Party has the chance to follow its own advice at the Whitsun Conference.

In the meantime, the Government of Canada was acting in this very matter by refusing to allow Pollitt to land on a lecture tour, while, nearer home, the same cold wind has been evident. After Belgium's Van Aacker had stood up to the Communists, and beaten them, France's Robert Schuman has been purging in full pre-knowledge of the Communist "spring offensive" (apt designation of one campaign among many, whose effects may be the same as campaigns won in the field of battle).

The French Government has purged high officials like the secretary-general of the nationalised electricity industry; it has thrown out suspect Russians and Poles, no matter if they were affiliated to their respective diplomatic missions; it has sanctioned a clean-up of Military Government in the French Zone of Germany, where Communists and fellow-travellers sailed in two years ago, in room of alleged "Vichy reactionaries" who had been evicted on the strength of a Paris campaign.

In further testimony to the new wind that bloweth came the Security Council's decision to allow the Chilean request that Soviet Minister Zorin's part in the Czech rape be inquired into—this after Trygve Lie had ruled—not for the first time—against a move calculated to incommode the U.S.S.R.

The deduction is here made, therefore, that the red light has now really been noted, and that the West has at last come to see that it is not a matter of staying passively on the defence, but of passing to the counter-attack in order to consolidate peoples most threatened, and to rescue others who have been engulfed.

There seems to me to be three courses open, in respect of Panslav-Communism on the march.

The first is to do nothing at all, save words, words, and this we have majestically done ever since 1945.

The second is to set about suppressing Communism, to black-list the Reds and outlaw them from national affairs great and small. I cannot see why this should be "making martyrs" of them. These people are quite obviously out to undermine the Constitution by seditious propaganda. Most things they say and engineer are aimed at "bringing the Government or Constitution into hatred or contempt," which is part of the definition of sedition in English law. Nor do I see that the risk we run in going out after Communists is greater than that incurred by not doing so.

Not to put too blunt an edge on things, we are well aware, here and elsewhere, that to control and restrict Communists *at this stage* is to court grave labour trouble and strikes. I need do no more than recall the assertion made by Horner, that the mines would cease work in the event of any conflict with Russia, to show how carefully the Red Rot has to be handled. Yet handled it must be.

The third course open avoids a critical show-down between the State and the workers. It does what the Communists and their friends most earnestly trust may never be done. It exposes them, mobilises against them, boycotts them, and, up to a point, restricts them.

Complete and constant exposure of the deceits they practise, and of how the wheels go round in their closed society, is what the Communists dread most.

To achieve results, the public must keep permanently on the alert against, as yet, little suspected Communist penetration. I do not refer to obvious Red headway in the trade unions and co-operative societies, but to widespread Communist use of innocent-sounding "cover causes" like associations of local residents, local parents' committees, movements for the "defence of civil liberties," for cultural friendships with foreign countries.

It does not matter how charming, forthright, charitable and helpful suspects appear to be. That is their tactic, particularly to take up the cudgels on behalf of this and that cause, grievance or person. This is the highly subtle tactic of the Red "fronts," the formation of which led to the doom of Czechoslovakia. Before "The Day" these "fronts" were just so many localised affairs. But when zero hour struck, all were woven into the front line of the "Action Committees," and countless unsuspecting people gaped. Too late to do a thing!

Secondly, the Communists fear mobilisation against them. This is partly covered by the foregoing, but it means, essentially, that the public shall muster in full strength on all voting occasions, the seemingly little along with the big. How small the Communist vote is likely to be cuts no ice. It was Fierlinger's fellow-travellers who brought down Czech liberty. They are the intangible ones to guard and vote against.

Thirdly, there is the boycott on the lines of Lady Megan's action. One would go further and say that it is high time all social occasions with Communists were dropped, not excluding receptions at the Soviet Embassy, save for strict formality demanded by the Protocol. There is now something quite out of place in hobnobbing with people bent on murdering our mode of existence.

Fourthly, comes debunking, something different from exposure. General Robertson debunked, and the surest and easiest way to continue the good work is over the air. Let "This is London" go into "cold war" action, keeping up the spirits of many more than Czechs and Slovaks.

Finally, there is the matter of stopping, or at least limiting, the comings and goings of key Communist plotters, even when they choose to travel under trade union or kindred accreditation. Nor should notorious Cryptos be allowed to circulate at will. Either this is a damnable conspiracy, as Pakenham says, or it is not. If yes, Canada's lead is one to follow.

I am all for taking a page from the Russians who have been celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of the Soviet Secret Police by a drive against the "subversive activities of imperialistic agents against the U.S.S.R. . . . which obliges our people firmly to close to imperialist agents all means of entry into Soviet institutions, industrial undertakings, scientific institutes, and so on."

Substitute "Panslav-Communist agents" for "imperialist agents," and we, too, may see the way ahead.

CHILE IS DISTURBED BY THE COURSE OF EVENTS IN MIDDLE EUROPE: Señor Hernan Santa Cruz (second from left), Chilean delegate to the United Nations, telling members of the Press about his country's stand regarding the situation in Czechoslovakia. He has requested Mr. Trygve Lie, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to transmit to the Security Council a petition asking for an investigation of the facts surrounding the Czechoslovakian crisis. This investigation would be in accord with the 34th Article of the United Nations Charter

EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY: This was the scene at Mogosoaia Station, near Bucharest, as members of the Rumanian Government delegation were welcomed back from Moscow after signing a Treaty of Friendship, Mutual Assistance and Co-operation with the Soviet Union. Above the station entrance were portraits of Vasile Luca, Rumanian Finance Minister; Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, Minister of National Economy; Dr. Groza, the Premier; Joseph Stalin; V. Molotov; Ana Pauker, Rumania's Foreign Minister; and Lothan Radaceanu, Minister of Labour

WHERE, AT THE PEAK OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR, 18,000 MEN WERE EMPLOYED : A scene of destruction in the yards of Messrs. Blohm and Voss, the largest shipyard on the Continent of Europe. The gantries seen in this picture stood over the submarine slipways, and from those ways came the endless succession of U-boats with which Admirals Raeder and Doenitz waged war in the North Atlantic and at the Western Approaches. The gantries were not hit by Allied aircraft during the war, but were dynamited immediately after the surrender. Until recently 800 men have been employed in an undamaged part of the Blohm and Voss plant repairing locomotives for the German railways. Even that activity must now cease with the dismantlement that has been ordered by the British Military Government. Blohm and Voss was started in 1877. It was the birthplace of the mammoth liner *Vaterland*, which was handed to America after the First World War, being renamed the *Leviathan* and put in the North Atlantic service. Blohm and Voss were also considerable builders of fighting and reconnaissance aircraft during the Second World War

THE NADIR OF NAZI MIGHT

The Disintegration of a Mighty Shipyard and an Air-Raid Bunker

A FLAK FORTRESS BLOWN UP IN THE FRENCH SECTOR OF BERLIN : The two lower pictures show the second, and successful, attempt by engineers to destroy the "Humboldthain," one of the vast shelters and anti-aircraft gun-positions in the Prussian capital. The first attempt at destruction produced the result shown in the top picture. At the second attempt all but one tower was brought down in ruins. Similar attempts in the British sector at first met with failure. For their second effort the French used 50 tons of dynamite

GERMAN INDUSTRY LIES IN RUINS : Another scene of destruction in the submarine yards of the great shipbuilding firm of Blohm and Voss at Hamburg. Beneath the wreckage of the gantries are the uncompleted hulls of submarines which were never launched against the Allied navies

A JET FIGHTER OPERATES from a CARRIER

The United States Navy Follows Britain's Lead

THE U.S. NAVY'S FIRST ALL-JET-PROPELLED CARRIER-BASED FIGHTER PLANE: The F.J.1, popularly known as the Fury, goes roaring down the deck of the 27,000-ton Essex-class carrier "Boxer" in the first take-off ever achieved by an American jet-propelled naval aircraft from a flight deck. The operation took place off the coast of California, and high American officers who watched the flight described it as a turning-point in naval aviation. In Britain the same experiment was carried to a successful conclusion in the winter of 1945, when a de Havilland Vampire took off from the flight deck of the new light carrier *Ocean*. The American F.J.1 shown in this picture, and in pictures on the next page, is built by North American Aviation. It is a fighter with a speed of more than 550 m.p.h. and a range of 1,500 miles. It carries six machine-guns, which are mounted in the nose on each side of the jet intake. The pilot has an excellent field of view from his high cockpit

THREE PHASES IN THE FURY'S TAKE-OFF FROM engine in action the F.J.1 stands on her Fury nearing the end of her 95-ft. run.

THE FURY RETURNS TO HER landing officer tells the a perfect touch down.

A NEW PRODUCT OF FRANCE'S NATIONALISED AVIATION INDUSTRY: This twin-boomed aircraft, seen on her maiden flight above Toussus le Noble Airfield, near Paris, has a pusher-type three-bladed propeller set between the booms. The machine is built to carry four persons or the equivalent in freight, and has a cruising speed of about 110 m.p.h. with a range of approximately 650 miles

TWO NEW PUSHER TYPES MAKE THEIR BOW

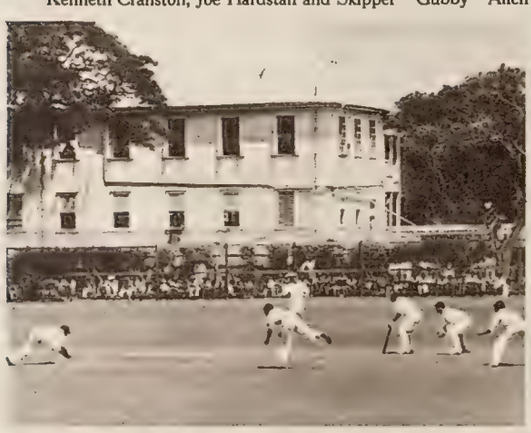
Fashions in aircraft come and go, but the pusher-type engine is never quite eliminated from the reckoning, for the obvious reason that in certain circumstances nothing more effective has yet been found to replace it. For instance, in the Goodyear Amphibian, a three-seater in which speed is not essential, the pusher engine remains well clear of the water and the pilot is allowed a fine field of vision. This three-seater amphibian, which is illustrated on the right, has a cruising speed of 110 m.p.h. and descends at approximately 50 m.p.h. on land or water. The take-off from water needs a run of about a quarter of a mile. An outstanding feature of the amphibian is the fitting of cross-wind landing gear, which is retractable and is electrically operated. The "Duck" is to be used experimentally in Britain. On the subsequent report will depend whether it is to be manufactured in quantity. Another pusher type is the passenger or freighter produced by Société de Construction Aeronautique Nationale. It bears a certain resemblance to the specialised aircraft built in Britain for artillery spotting, the arrangement of the engine between the booms and the tricycle undercarriage being similar.

THE FLIGHT DECK OF THE UNITED STATES FLEET AIRCRAFT-CARRIER "BOXER"—A CATAPULT TAKE-OFF ACCOMPLISHED WITH A RUN OF 95 FT.: *Left*—With her jet catapult mark ready for the flag signal which sent her soaring above her parent-ship to create a record in the history of the United States Navy. *Centre*—The Apart from the personnel in charge of the take-off, a large number of ratings watched the plane from the port side of the flight deck. *Right*—The Fury aloft

PARENT SHIP—THREE PHASES IN THE LANDING FROM THE MOMENT OF HER BEING SIGNALLED DOWN UNTIL SHE MADE CONTACT WITH NO. 1 WIRE: *Left*—THE Fury's pilot to bring his craft in on the exact bearing he is at present on. *Centre*—The Fury, her shadow already over the flight deck, comes in to make *Right*—She is caught in No. 1 wire after Commander Aurand had skilfully brought her down. A handler is seen rushing forward to disengage the tail hook

ANOTHER PUSHER TYPE WITH SOME NOVEL FEATURES—THE GOODYEAR G.A.2 DUCK IS A THREE-SEATER AMPHIBIAN: This unusual-looking machine has just been brought over to Britain from Holland by the aviation representative of the Goodyear Company. It was designed by Goodyear aircraft engineers in the United States, and is one of fifteen widely differing prototypes brought out by Goodyear's with a view to deciding what is the ideal type of light plane. This G.A.2 amphibian is powered by a single 145-h.p. Franklin engine mounted as a pusher on a pedestal which is set centrally above the wings

WITH THE M.C.C. IN BRITISH GUIANA: A farewell party at the Carib Hotel, Georgetown, as our players concluded a phase of their not very successful West Indian tour. On the left is G. Gomez, the West Indian all-rounder. With him are keeper Evans of Kent and Howorth. The trio on the right are Kenneth Cranston, Joe Hardstaff and Skipper "Gubby" Allen



"GUBBY" ALLEN GETS DOWN TO IT: The M.C.C. skipper catching E. Weekes during the Third Test Match between the M.C.C. and the West Indies at Georgetown, British Guiana. The match ended in a convincing win for the West Indies

LEN HUTTON IS DRIVING AS WELL AS EVER: R. J. Chritiani leaping to stop a fast one from the Yorkshire No. 1, who opened the England innings in the Third Test Match. In both innings Hutton was out when he looked set for a big score

FERGUSON SPREADEAGLES HUTTON'S WICKET: The disaster at the start of M.C.C.'s second innings in the third Test

Both from a cricketing point of view and as an embassy the M.C.C. tour of the West Indies has not been a success. From the outset the M.C.C. under-estimated the opposition, sending out to the Caribbean a team that lacked colourful personalities and never looked like being a match-winner. Many cricket enthusiasts declared that we had done little to serve the cause of international cricket by this under-estimation of our opponents. On the field of play the M.C.C. have been unfortunate in the extent of their casualties, and it was for this reason that Len Hutton, England's opening bat, had to be sent for. He came hot-foot from his native Yorkshire and scored a fine century at his first appearance in the West Indies

THE TRIUMPH OF PIETRO VASSENA: The Italian inventor about to enter the conning-tower of his deep-sea submarine before making a dive beneath the waters of Lake Como, Northern Italy. Vassena reached a depth of 760 ft., which, he says, constitutes a world record for submarines

VASSENA EMERGES FROM HIS SUBMARINE, THE C 3, AFTER REACHING A DEPTH OF 760 FT. BELOW LAKE COMO: Vassena built his strange craft at Lecco, Northern Italy, and plans to use it for deep-sea research. Powerful headlights in the nose of the craft are intended for underwater observation, and there are also stoutly-built inspection windows. A mechanical grab is fitted to the nose of the submarine for securing specimens from the depths. Because of the similarity of his experiments to those of Professor Piccard, of Belgium, Vassena has been called the Piccolo Piccard of Italy. Last November it was reported that Piccard was to attempt to reach a depth of 13,000 ft. off the Ivory Coast

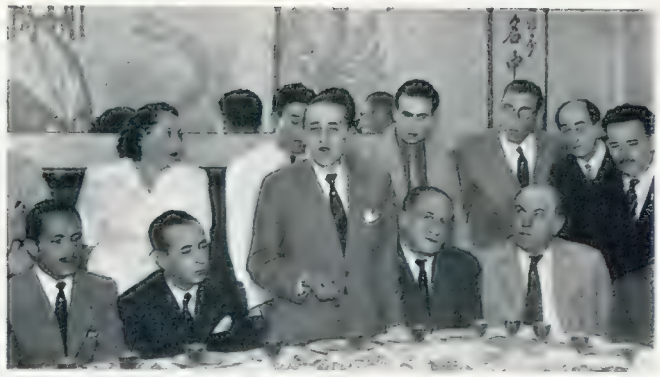
Foreign News in Pictures

FROM THE CARIBBEAN TO TOKYO

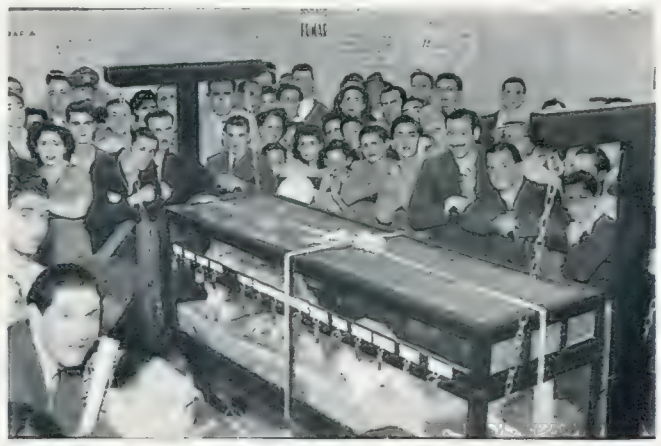
THE CASE OF EDWARD CIPPICO: This unfrocked Vatican priest is seen (left) with police detectives after arrest and arrival at Rome Police headquarters. Cippico is believed to have been responsible for currency frauds totalling £1,200,000.

CZECH CITIZENS ONCE AGAIN FIND THEMSELVES IN A GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMP : The scene in the camp at Schwabach, in the United States Zone of Germany after Czechs who had fled across the border rather than remain in their country following the Communist coup, had been accommodated by the military authorities. It is thought possible that this east-west movement from the half-Sovietised Republic will continue for several weeks as more and more members of the community come under the suspicion of the Communist-controlled police. Prague has indeed become a city of fear and despair, with dismissals from key posts a daily occurrence. The general director of the nationalised chemical industry has been sent on leave ; sixteen judges in Prague have been dismissed from their courts, seventeen in Brno and twelve in Olomouc ; and a big purge has been carried out in the Farmers' Union

KING GUSTAV OF SWEDEN ENJOYS THE RIVIERA SUNSHINE : Seated between Dr. Hjalmar Casserman and Baroness von Essen, he watched a tennis match at Beaulieu-sur-Mer. Two weeks ago, a rumour spread in Stockholm that the eighty-nine-year-old King of Sweden had died in a train on the way to Paris. Flags were lowered to half-mast and the radio programme was changed so that only serious music was played. Fortunately the rumour was false and Crown Prince Gustav Adolf made an official announcemen' that the King had crossed the Franco-Belgian frontier in perfect health. King Gustav lost no time in indulging his great love of the game of tennis



THE FAKIR OF BRAZIL PREPARES FOR HIS GREAT PUBLIC EXHIBITION : Senhor Urbano entertaining members of the Uruguayan Press before he started his big fast, which he planned to continue for twenty days. For the purpose his enterprising managers hired a building in the main street of Montevideo, and more than 60,000 citizens paid to see Senhor Urbano as he lay under lock and key in his glass coffin



URBANO ON THE TENTH DAY OF HIS ORDEAL : The Fakir of Brazil in the sealed glass case in which he carried out his fast. On this tenth foodless day he did a national broadcast with the aid of loudspeaker equipment installed in his coffin. Along the side of the coffin can be seen the padlocks There were fourteen separate holders of keys

ON THE SEVENTEENTH DAY THE FARCE AND THE FAST CAME TO AN END : Urbano, the Brazilian fakir, released from his glass coffin. He had to terminate his fast as he developed boils and his medical adviser thought it advisable to send him off to hospital for treatment

ANTI-COMMUNIST KOREANS DEMONSTRATE IN TOKYO : They carry Chinese, American and British flags. To celebrate the twenty-ninth anniversary of Korean independence, anti-Communist Koreans paraded in Tokyo to protest against the puppet government set up by Russia in Northern Korea. Their banner was inscribed with the words "Absolute Negation of the Puppet Government in North Korea" and the names of its bearers—"Korean Residents' Union in Japan" and "Youth Organisation for Reconstruction of Korea"

JAMES F. BYRNES PROPOSES THE REVIVAL OF CONSCRIPTION IN AMERICA : The former Secretary of State was speaking at The Citadel, Charleston, S.C. : In a forceful speech, made before Mr Truman's declaration, Mr. Byrnes told his audience that the United States should promptly revive wartime selective service to back up a warning that America is against further Russian expansion

KING LEOPOLD OF BELGIUM TAKES THE AIR IN CUBA : Walking by the seashore with Carlos de la Terre. The King is holidaying in Cuba with his wife, Princess de Réthy, and Prince Baudouin, his son. De la Terre, a Cuban naturalist, is a frequent companion of the King, who is making a collection of local shellfish

Lord and Lady Mountbatten Pay a Visit to Burma

KING THIBAW'S THRONE IS PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE

THE ARRIVAL AT RANGOON AIRPORT: Lord and Lady Mountbatten walking from their plane with the Burmese Premier, Thakin Nu. India's Governor-General had arrived to make a tour of the new independent sovereign State and in order to present to the people the throne of King Thibaw, last King of Burma

On November 7, 1885, King Thibaw, destined to be the last King of Burma, issued a proclamation calling on his subjects "to drive the British heretics into the sea." On November 14 a British expedition crossed the frontier and advanced to Mandalay, forcing the King, who had grossly misgoverned the country since the death of his father in 1878, to go down-river as a prisoner to Rangoon. From that day onwards Upper Burma progressed under British rule, and the old lawlessness was put down. To-day Burma is a republic, seeking her destiny outside the British Commonwealth of Nations, but she stands on terms of friendship both with her old overlord, Britain, and with her neighbour, the new Indian Dominion. Those early days of conquest were brought to mind in mid-March when India's Governor-General, Earl Mountbatten, the man who directed the battle against the Japanese in Burma in the Second World War, returned to Rangoon and in a formal presentation at the Presidential Palace handed over to the Burmese people the throne of King Thibaw, a decorated table which formed part of the Palace furniture, and a silver mat which, according to tradition, was woven by Queen Supaya Lat herself. In his speech Lord Mountbatten tactfully left out any mention of the notorious Thibaw, who, incidentally, died in Bombay in 1916, but he paid a glowing tribute to General Aung San, the leader who perished in last year's political assassinations

SAO SHWE THAIK, FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE BURMESE REPUBLIC, THANKS EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA, GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA, FOR THE RETURN OF KING THIBAW'S THRONE: This ceremony, attended by the President's wife and Lady Mountbatten, took place in the Presidential Palace, Rangoon. In the background is the massive throne which belonged to the last King of Burma, the notorious King Thibaw, whose irregular rule ended in Britain's annexation of Upper Burma in 1885 and his own exile and that of his evil genius, Queen Supaya Lat, to Bombay Province. The table at which the President and the Governor-General sat at the ceremony also belonged to King Thibaw

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA AT THE SHWE DAGON PAGODA, RANGOON: Earl Mountbatten and his party walking in stockinged feet in the celebrated shrine. The sanctity of the Shwe Dagon Pagoda lies in the fact that it is said to contain the relics not only of Gautama, but of the three Buddhas who preceded him

THE GARLANDED GOVERNOR-GENERAL: Earl Mountbatten addressing students of Rangoon University on the day after his arrival in the city. It was noted that on this occasion he was wearing the uniform of a Lieutenant-General, a reminder that as Supreme Commander in Burma he had a large measure of control over the land campaign

A HELICOPTER HOVERS OVER THE LIGHT TANKS: The helicopter was taking part in last week's demonstration at the School of Artillery, Larkhill, for cadets of the R.M.A., Sandhurst. The machine acted as an aerial observation post, directing and correcting gun-fire on ground targets

A HELICOPTER FOR ARTILLERY RANGING

An Interesting Experiment at Larkhill

The School of Artillery display at Larkhill was given on two separate days. On the first occasion it was for the Sandhurst Cadets, and there was a repeat performance for the officers of the Staff College, Camberley. On each occasion the helicopter "stole the show," but it is doubtful if many gunners would relish directing artillery fire in real action from an observation post so vulnerable. Against 3·7-in. guns firing with the type of sympathetic detonating fuses used in the fight against the flying bombs, it is indeed doubtful if the helicopter would be more than a suicide position. However, the Larkhill demonstration was one of immense interest, and Major Nick Gow handled the helicopter with superb skill. The visitors to Larkhill also saw a demonstration of equipment, including the 17-pounder gun mounted on a Valentine tank chassis. Among the big guns on show for the cadets were the 7·2-in. howitzer and the gigantic American 240-mm. howitzer (illustrated below), which fires a 360-lb. shell

SANDHURST CADETS WATCH A BRILLIANT DISPLAY OF GUNNERY: The audience at the Larkhill demonstration, which included a display of modern equipment and also of the latest fire-support ideas

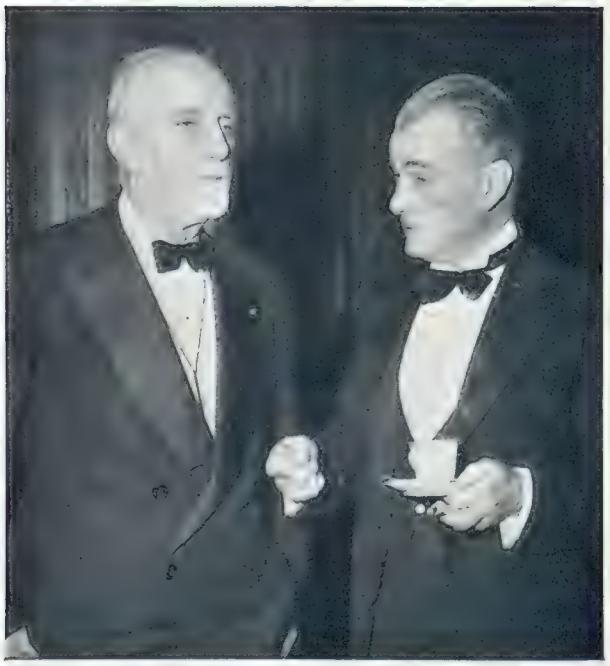
THE GIGANTIC AMERICAN 240-MM. HOWITZER: Gunners are seen ramming the charge into the breech. The gun fires a 360-lb. shell, and has an effective range of 22,250 yards. Seated on left and right of the piece are layers for bearing and elevation. An instructor of gunnery, with arms on hips, stands on the right-hand base support. Two ammunition numbers are on the left

THE HELICOPTER COMES TO EARTH: The machine, piloted by Major Nick Gow, of the Royal Artillery, hovered above the ground in a high wind and came to rest on a marked piece of ground equal in extent to a good-sized dining-table. Whether the helicopter would make an effective observation post in action is a doubtful point, as it would be a sitting target

"THE CONFERENCE TABLE CAN AT ANY MOMENT BE ENLARGED AND THE DOOR HAS NOT BEEN BOLTED AND BARRED BY US": With these words M. Bidault, the French Foreign Minister, prefaced his remarks on European recovery at the opening of the second Conference of sixteen nations held in the Salon d'Horloge of the Quai d'Orsay Palace. All the sixteen Powers will be participants in Marshall Aid, and the meeting took place following the publication of the news of the U.S. Senate's handsome majority in favour of the European Aid Programme. Mr. Bevin took the chair at the Conference, and gave the delegates an assurance that Britain would herself make contributions to European recovery. He hoped that this voluntary co-operation would continue after the pressure of present need had diminished

SIXTEEN POWERS MEET IN PARIS

Some Personalities at the Marshall Plan Conference at the Quai d'Orsay



AT AN EVENING GATHERING AT THE QUAI D'ORSAY: Count Sforza, the Italian Foreign Minister, in conversation with Jefferson Caffery, United States Ambassador in Paris

SWEDEN'S FOREIGN MINISTER: Herr Unden adjusts his glasses as the Conference settles to work

A CENTURY AFTER METTERNICH: Herr Gruber, the Austrian Foreign Minister, at the conference

SENHOR DA MATA MADE AN ARRESTING CONTRIBUTION: The Portuguese delegate to the Conference with his economic adviser, Colonel Fernandes (right). Senhor da Mata proposed that Spain be associated in the future with the sixteen nations in European recovery

REPRESENTING THE PAYS-BAS: H.E. Jonkheer Tjarda van Starkenborgh Stachouwer, the Dutch Ambassador to France, listening to one of the opening speeches in the Salon d'Horloge. The Ambassador supported the chief Dutch delegate, Foreign Minister Baron van Boetzelaer

"WHAT WE DO NOW WILL DETERMINE THE FUTURE PEACE AND PROSPERITY OF THE WORLD": Mr. Ernest Bevin, Britain's Foreign Secretary, speaking from his position beneath the clock in the Salon d'Horloge. His keynote speech as chairman of the meeting indicated to the delegates of the other fifteen nations that the British Government is prepared to go farther and faster than many Governments in Europe expected was possible

MR. BEVIN LISTENS TO M. BIDAULT: Britain's Foreign Minister deep in thought as he heard France's Foreign Minister give his views on the new European co-operation

The Communist seizure of power in Prague has brought a new sense of urgency to Europe. That was plain enough last week when the sixteen Marshall Aid nations met in Paris, and when the Five Nations Treaty was signed in Brussels between Great Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. The Paris Conference was specially significant. For this gathering did not deal with the plain issue of economic assistance, the pumping of new blood into the broken-down economic system of Europe, but with plans for continuing co-operation even after Marshall Aid has had its beneficial effect. Mr. Bevin in his forthright speech, declared: "The United States help gives us a breathing space, and we must use this period to make sure that we build up our co-operation on a sound basis. But when that period of help ends and the programme has succeeded, I do not believe that we shall break apart; I believe that our co-operation will go on. In other words, during these four years the habit of voluntary co-operation will have been so strengthened that it cannot and will not cease when the pressure of present need diminishes."

Of the sixteen nations at the Conference, fourteen of them were represented by their Foreign Ministers, and these included Count Sforza, the veteran Italian, and Herr Gruber, the Austrian Foreign Minister. It was agreed that when a permanent body is set up, and this is already being organised as an outcome of the Conference, the Western Zones of Germany shall be represented. A request from Portugal that Spain be included in the recovery programme was heard in silence by the Conference

THE WAR CABINET'S UNDERGROUND HEADQUARTERS 50 FT. BELOW MARSHAM STREET, WESTMINSTER: Here during the war years members of the War Cabinet and the Chiefs of Staff often held their deliberations. Maps hang on the distempered walls of rough brick and overhead are painted steel girders and ventilating ducts. It has now been decided that the principal rooms in this headquarters shall be preserved just as they were in wartime, but they will not be open to public inspection. One reason for this is that the headquarters, with their mile of twisting underground passages and 150 small rooms, were not designed for mass visitation. Construction work on the rooms was started in 1937, and at the time of the Munich crisis three or four of them were ready. On the table is a quotation from Queen Victoria's celebrated utterance: "Please understand there is no depression in this house and we are not interested in the possibilities of defeat"

THE UNDERGROUND H.Q. of BRITAIN'S WAR CABINET

From Which Mr. Churchill and His Colleagues Directed the Nation's Effort

MR. CHURCHILL'S DESK: Here the Premier worked into the early hours, and from here he made more than one of his great broadcasts. On the table can still be seen some of those famous pink slips bearing the words, "Action this day"

MR. CHURCHILL'S WARTIME BEDROOM AND STUDY: It is being preserved as it was during hostilities. During raids the Premier could seldom be kept below ground, and he was more often than not watching everything from the roof of the Air Ministry or some other vantage point

MRS. CHURCHILL'S EMERGENCY BEDROOM IN THE HEADQUARTERS: The Premier's wife also broadcast from the headquarters, making several of her stirring appeals on behalf of the Russian wounded. Altogether there was sleeping accommodation below ground for about 270 people, and enough food was kept there to last the occupants about a week

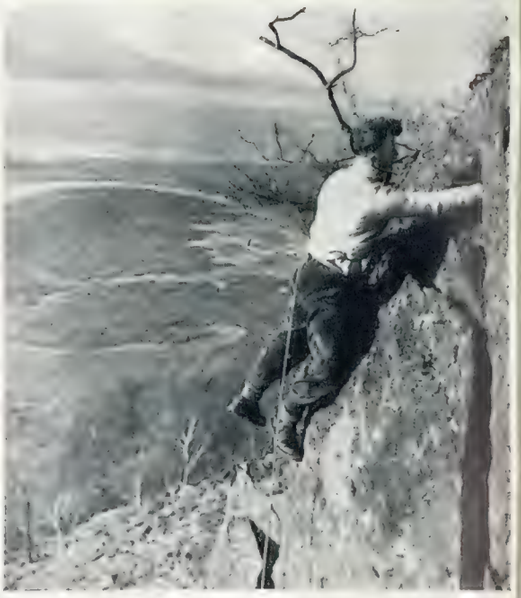
THE MAP AND OPERATIONS ROOM WHERE MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL AND HIS ADVISERS COULD WATCH THE HOUR-TO-HOUR PROGRESS OF THE WAR: This map room operated day and night during hostilities. It had a tremendous fascination, says Lord Ismay, wartime Military Adviser to the British Cabinet. "You could never pass it without popping in to see the very latest news of the war—the progress of a convoy, how things were going on each land front."

The secret underground headquarters of the War Cabinet and Chiefs of Staff was designed to hold 2,000 people, but nothing in the whole headquarters makes a greater appeal than its associations with Mr. Churchill. It is permeated with his personality, reflecting the robust doggedness with which he conducted the war, working unflaggingly at all hours of the day and night. The headquarters, situated 50 ft. below ground, has 150 rooms, a mile of corridors, and covers about six acres. At every turn there are vivid reminders of the wartime Premier—the room from which he made his historic broadcasts, the telephone-room from which he spoke so often to President Roosevelt, the seat he occupied in the Cabinet room and the emergency bedroom to which he would descend only when compelled. The nearest bomb to fall near the headquarters was a 1,000-pounder, which came down beside the statue of Lord Clive. It shook the building, but not Mr. Churchill, causing him to observe: "A pity it was not a bit nearer, so that we might have tested our defences."

LORD ISMAY IN THE WAR MAP ROOM: The Cabinet's wartime Military Adviser, who last year returned from India, where he assisted Lord Mountbatten during his Viceroyalty, is seen pointing with a stick to the world map which stood on the right of the duty officer's desk. Lord Ismay was Military Adviser from 1940 to 1945. *Inset on left*—A close-up of the battery of telephones connecting with the War Office and other departments

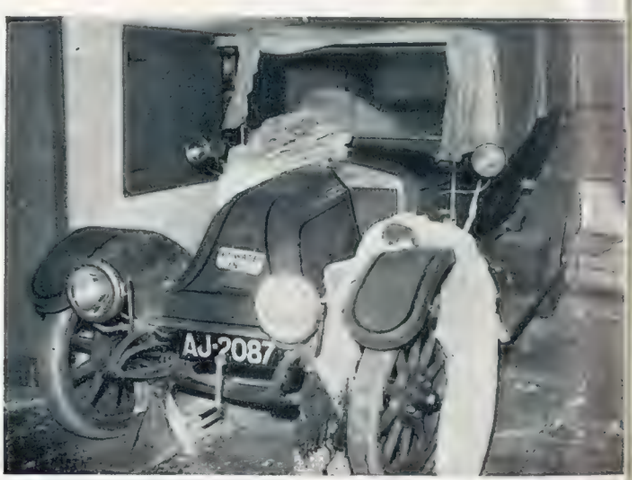
A SURVEY OF THE HOME NEWS IN PICTURES

A CHINDIT FLAG DEDICATED IN LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: Lord Wavell (towards left) is handing to Mrs. Lorna Wingate, widow of the late Major-General Wingate, a token for the safe-keeping of the flag, which is seen being held in the aisle for the dedication ceremony. The service, which was attended by many Chindits, was part of the week-end celebrations of the first Chindit reunion. Major-General Wingate lost his life in Burma at the height of the victorious campaign against the Japanese



CLIMBING A CRAG IN BORROWDALE: Vincent Veevers, of Keswick, is one of the Lakeland guides whose services are always much in demand among amateur climbers, who seek both his advice and his company. Here he is training for the Easter holiday invasion

THE MYSTERY OF SINNINGTON HALL: At the height of the 1914-18 war Miss Hilda Kendall, lady of the manor in the village of Sinnington, Yorks, shut the gates of her estate and retired indoors, not to reappear. A few days ago she was buried at All Saints, Sinnington, after police had broken into the shuttered mansion and found her dead



A DUST-CLOTH WENT OVER THE 1914 MODEL ARROL JOHNSTON AND NEITHER THE CAR NOR ITS OWNER WENT ABROAD AGAIN: The car stands jacked up in the garage of Sinnington Hall, Yorks, the home of the late Miss Hilda Kendall, who spent the last thirty years of her life as a recluse. From that day to her death in mid-March only a very few of the 426 villagers of Sinnington had set eyes on Miss Kendall. Undergrowth spread across the paths and the whole place wore an air of desolation

SHOWING THE UNITED STATES FLAG IN EUROPEAN WATERS: Admiral Richard L. Conolly (right), Commander-in-Chief, United States Naval Forces, Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, with Vice-Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Mediterranean, one of the task forces of Admiral Conolly's command. Vice-Admiral Sherman has lately arrived in Europe and his important task force in the Middle Sea includes no fewer than eighteen ships. The spearhead of this very powerful force is the 45,000-ton aircraft-carrier *Midway*

THE MAN THEY USED TO CALL "THE GLOOMY DEAN" EMERGES FROM HIS RETIREMENT: Dean Inge former Dean of St. Paul's, and perhaps the most-discussed churchman of his day, addressing members of the City Conservative Association at their headquarters in Cannon Street, London. Dean Inge, who will be celebrating his eighty-eighth birthday on June 6, now lives at Brightwell Manor, Wallingford, Beds. As his visit to the City Conservatives came soon after the North Croydon by-election, it is doubtful if the Dean brought to bear on his audience the special brand of pessimism which in earlier days earned him his nickname. Dean Inge's first publication was in 1886, when he wrote *Society in Rome under the Cæsars*

COMMEMORATING A MASTER OF BLACK-AND-WHITE : Mr. John Rothenstein, Director of the Tate Gallery, speaking on the steps of the house in Cambridge Street, Pimlico, before he unveiled a plaque in memory of Aubrey Beardsley, who lived there from 1893 to 1895. The ceremony commemorated the fiftieth anniversary of Beardsley's death at Menton. Mr. Rothenstein's father, Sir William Rothenstein, was a fellow-artist and close friend of Beardsley. *On right*—The unveiling of the plaque. As an artist Beardsley was largely self-taught, except for a brief apprenticeship

PROVIDING BATTLE PRACTICE FOR THE HOME FLEET ON ITS RETURN TO ENGLAND FROM THE SPRING CRUISE : A busy scene in the control-room at the Naval Air Station at Culdrose, Cornwall, where Captain G. C. Dickens directed an attack on H.M.S. "Superb" and the destroyers "Agincourt," "Aisne," "Dunkirk" and "Jutland" as they steamed towards the Channel from their last port of call, Gibraltar. The progress of the battle was watched by Vice-Admiral Sir Rhoderick McGrigor, the Commander-in-Chief of the Home Fleet, who is seen standing on the right in the picture. Eighty aircraft took part in the battle. The first attacking wave went in at dawn near Start Point, and consisted of rocket-carrying Fireflies of No. 810 Squadron

A SHAKESPEAREAN PRODUCTION BY A KENTISH SCHOOL : Some of the young actors and actresses of Brenchley who took part in a production of ".Twelfth Night" under the guidance of their headmaster, Mr. Garner. No coupons were used for the costumes, which were made by the children, with help from their mothers. The school was too small for the performance, and so the actors had to don their costumes at the school and walk over to the village hall

A CELEBRATION IN THE CUMBERLAND FELLS : Mrs. Nancy Phillips, of Town Head Farm, Threlkeld, near Keswick, in the heart of the district made famous by the old hunting song, is a granddaughter of John Peel himself. On her ninety-second birthday, which she has just celebrated, she was visited by Mr. J. Bell, who is seen shaking hands with her. He is the present huntsman of the pack associated with John Peel—the Blencathra Foxhounds

WHERE THE STAFF COURSE IS HELD: The Queen Anne building of the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, built from designs furnished gratuitously by Sir Christopher Wren. Here Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, will report for duty on March 30, when he will begin the staff course designed to admit officers of the Senior Service to the higher grades of command. Forty-two students will take the course, most of them being commanders and lieutenant-commanders, and the very exacting curriculum will include the study of warfare in its broadest aspects

PRINCE PHILIP'S C.O.: Captain L. N. Brownfield, R.N., Captain of the Royal Naval College, Greenwich. Strategy, tactics, economic warfare, naval history, the protection of trade and the lessons learnt from the last world war are among the many subjects dealt with in the curriculum. The staff course will end on September 17

A Visit to Greenwich Naval College

WHERE THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH WILL TAKE HIS STAFF COURSE

When Prince Philip reports for his staff course at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, on March 30, he will be working on the site of the home of the Kings and Queens of England from Henry VI to the Interregnum.

Prince Philip will work extremely hard. Greenwich is the Navy's university. The staff course is one of the most strenuous in the Senior Service. Nearly all his forty-one fellow-students will be commanders and lieutenant-commanders, or their equivalent Army or R.A.F. ranks. All are specially selected. Every week-day until September 17 he will begin work at 9.15 on the many and varied subjects that qualify an officer for senior staff appointments in the Navy. The course includes two joint exercises at the R.A.F. Staff College at Bracknell and the School of Combined Operations at Fremington.

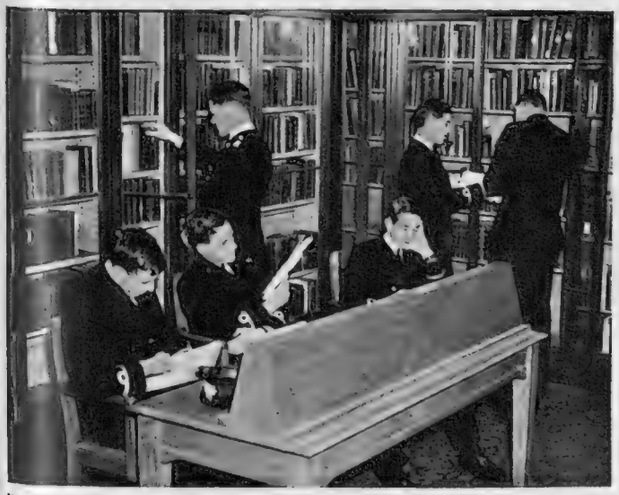
Prince Philip will have his meals in the magnificent Painted Hall designed by Wren when he was given the task of turning Greenwich into a home for naval pensioners, the Senior Service equivalent of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. Women visitors are allowed to dine there only on guest nights, and then only if they are serving officers in uniform. Princess Elizabeth will be able to visit her husband, as she holds a commission in the Guards. Prince Philip will have at his disposal one of the Navy's finest messes, dating from 1873, when Greenwich Hospital became the Royal Naval College. The amenities include squash courts, six billiard tables, and there is also a first-class skittle alley

THE PAINTED HALL AT GREENWICH IS THE OFFICERS' MESS: Cadets of the Royal Naval College dining in the famous chamber designed by Wren and decorated by Sir James Thornhill. The Hall contains a gallery of pictures commemorating famous naval victories and naval heroes

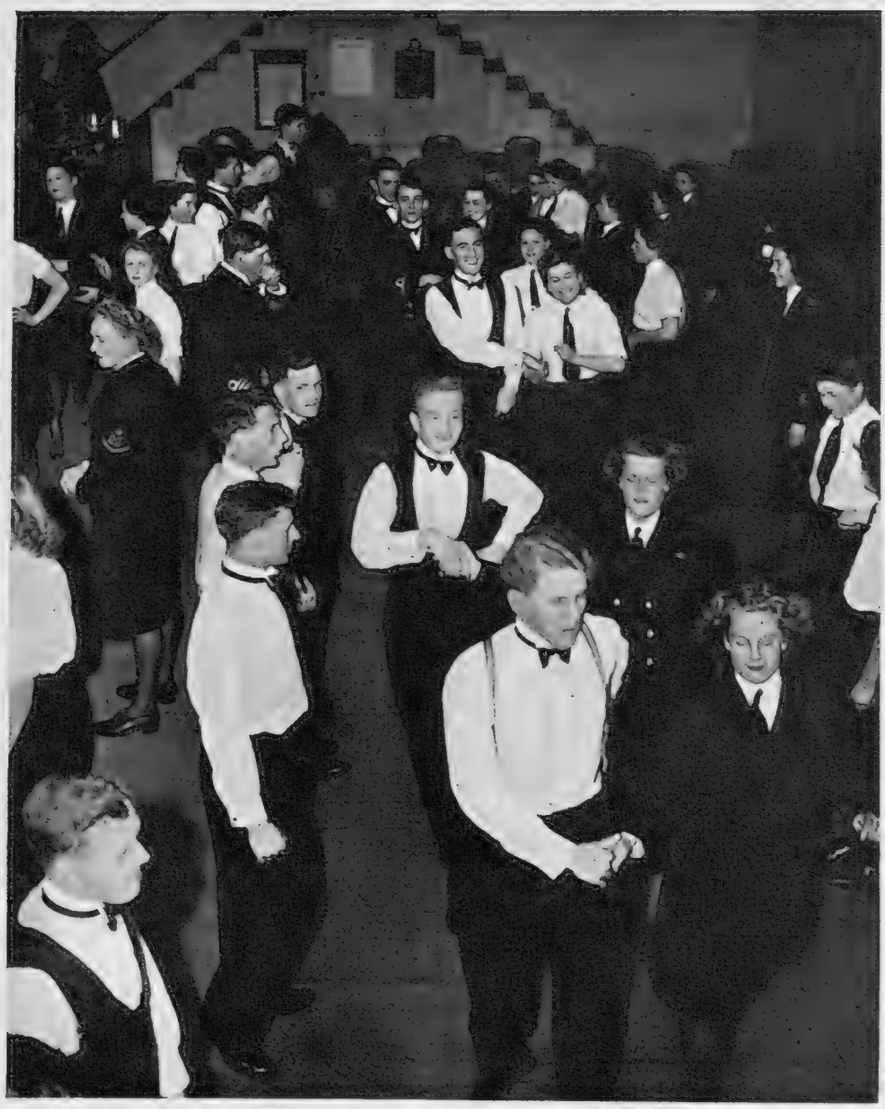
STUDYING BENEATH THE PORTRAIT BUST OF CHARLES DIBDIN: Two students in the library of the College. Dibdin, commemorated by the sculpture in the background, was author of the Naval Ballads. The inscription beneath reads: "For though his body's under hatches, his Soul is gone aloft"

COFFEE IN THE QUEEN ANNE ANTE-ROOM : This room at the Royal Naval College is reserved for officers of the rank of lieutenant-commander and upwards, but by reason of being on the staff course Prince Philip will be able to use the ante-room. There is only one other lieutenant on the course. Portraits of celebrated commanders and battle pictures adorn the walls

BILLIARDS IS A POPULAR GAME IN THE NAVY—ON SHORE : One of the six tables in the Greenwich mess. On guest nights members of the Sea Cadet forces volunteer to act as markers



IN THE COLLEGE LIBRARY : When working up material for lecturettes the students have access to a first-class collection of naval instructional works. All the standard histories are available



A FEATURE OF GUEST NIGHTS AT GREENWICH IS HIGHLAND DANCING : The officers are partnered by Wrens, and so strenuous is the exercise that most of them take their coats off. On the staff course senior officers, with plenty of " home work," get little time for such frolicking

RESTORING THE BLITZED WINDOWS OF ST. STEPHEN'S HALL

With the Aid of Century-old Records

St. Stephen's Hall, Westminster, stands on the site of St. Stephen's Chapel and adjoins the more celebrated Westminster Hall. In the days of the blitz, when the House of Commons was laid low by the Luftwaffe, the windows of the Hall were torn and shattered by the blast of bombs. For several years they lay a tangled mass of lead and broken glass. Now they have been repaired by a team of artists working at the John Hardman studios at Birmingham, where the original windows were designed and made a century ago. To carry out the repairs old files were consulted, and the original cartoons were brought to light for use as a guide in the work of reconstruction. In the pictures on this page craftsmen are seen at work on their task, which, but for the existing records, would have been well-nigh impossible.

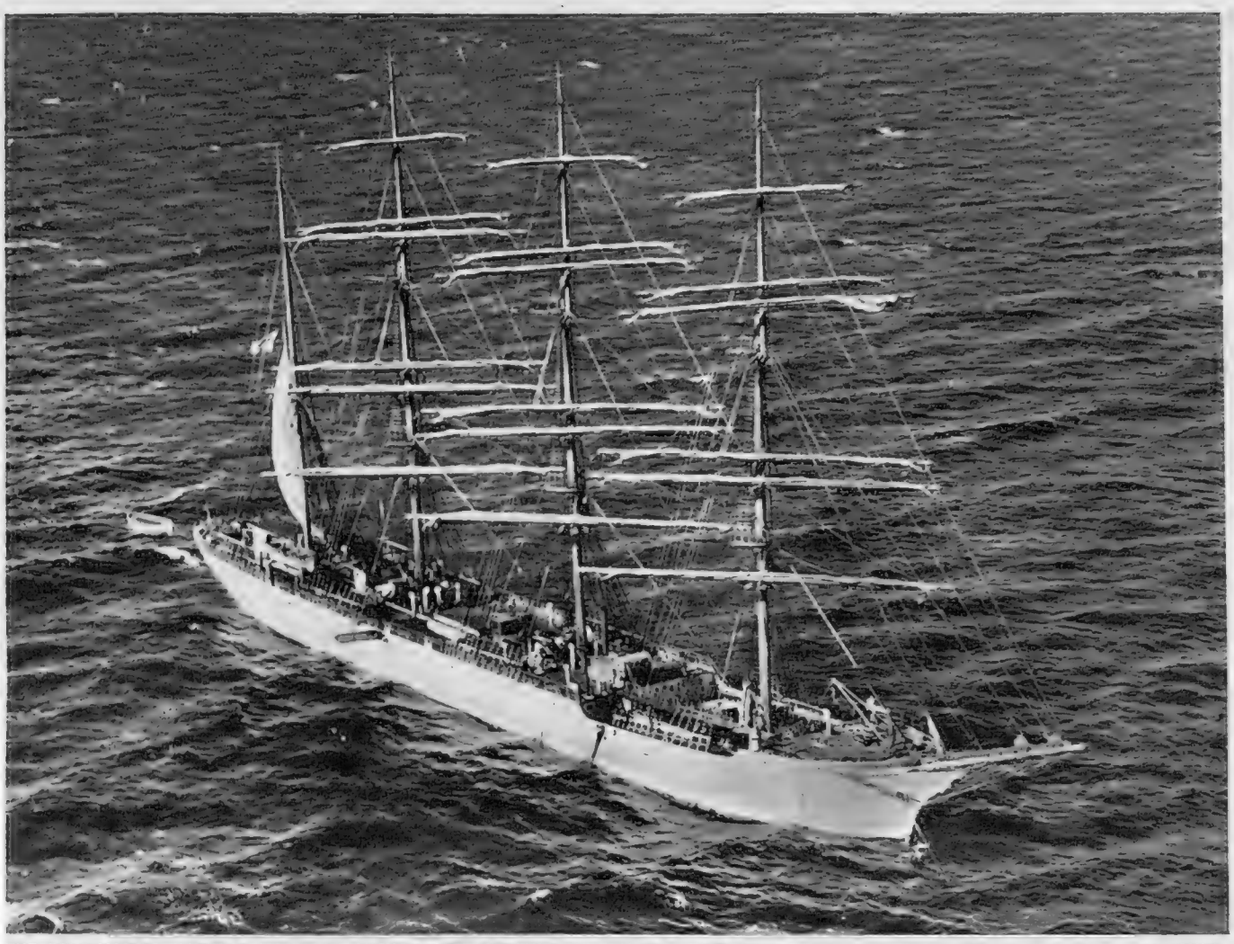
FROM A BOX MARKED 1849 : Mr. P. A. Feeney, of the Birmingham firm of Hardman, checking over some of the original correspondence relating to the making of the windows for St. Stephen's Hall, Westminster. The records for each year of the firm's existence are neatly stored away in a number of dust-proof tin boxes

NEW PARTS FOR THE JIGSAW : Mr. Barzier, a craftsman of fifty years' experience, painting sections of glass

WHERE THE SCALE DRAWINGS ARE PREPARED FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE GLASS-CUTTERS : Craftsmen at work in the Birmingham studios of John Hardman. Through the firm's care of its old records the original cartoons for St. Stephen's Hall were brought to light, thus facilitating the task of restoring the windows

STRIPPING A DAMAGED WINDOW FROM ST. STEPHEN'S HALL : A craftsman at work preparing it to receive the newly-painted sections of glass. In many places a new framework has had to be installed, and lengths of lead for the purpose are seen lying on the table ready for use

NEW GLASS IS CUT TO SHAPE : To do this the glass is placed on one of the measured drawings which acts as a guide to the diamond cutter. Before the task of restoring the windows, 100,000 pieces of glass of varying size will have been sorted and placed in their correct positions in accordance with the original design



THE FOUR-MASTER "VIKING" LIES AT ANCHOR OFF PORT VICTORIA, YORKE'S PENINSULA, AWAITING A FAVOURABLE WIND AFTER TAKING ON A CARGO OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BAGGED WHEAT FOR FALMOUTH: This barque is one of the four surviving sailing ships which used to take part in the grain race from Australia, and during her latest visit to Spencer Gulf she met up with her old rivals "Lawhill" and "Passat." The fourth survivor, "Pamir," is now in the Port of London, where she has been since completing a fast voyage from New Zealand in the autumn. "Viking's" wheat cargo on the present voyage consists of 51,000 bags

THE LAST GRAIN SHIPS MEET

"Viking" and "Lawhill" Pick Up Wheat Cargoes in S. Australia

The Australian grain race is a thing of the past, but the grain racers are not entirely eliminated, even if they have lost some of the glamour that belonged to the days between the wars when that redoubtable skipper, Ruben de Cloux, stormed towards the Horn in the big four-master *Parma* and there were some twenty other ships all in search of the Australia-England record. That was, perhaps, the "last kick" of romantic sail. Australia's latest grain harvest has been a bumper one, and at the beginning of this year that fact brought three of the old grain ships to Spencer Gulf, South Australia, where they have been loading. The *Viking*, a barque of 2,670 tons built at Copenhagen in 1907, is now on her way to Britain with 51,000 bags of wheat, and the *Lawhill* is crossing the Indian Ocean bound for Beira, Portuguese East Africa, with a slightly larger cargo. After the *Lawhill* was seized from the Finnish Government by the South African Government in 1941, she spent the rest of the war years voyaging between South Africa and Australia.

THE FOUR-MASTER "LAWHILL" STANDS OFF PORT VICTORIA WITH SAILS SET BUT LACKING THE WIND TO SEND HER DOWN SPENCER GULF ON THE FIRST LEG OF HER PASSAGE TO BEIRA, PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA: The "Lawhill" was the first of the three sailing-ships to load grain in South Australia this year, and since this picture was taken has been heading out for the Indian Ocean with 56,000 bags of wheat for Beira. The "Lawhill" now flies the South African flag

KONGWA—A PLAN on the HEROIC SCALE

The Progress of the East African Ground-nut Scheme

By CHARLES GRAVES

HEROIC measures seldom succeed without initial difficulties, and one has to look back a number of years to find anything so heroic as the Tanganyika Ground-nut Scheme, which is so much in the public eye at the moment. The difficulties already encountered are in proportion. It is easy to make ribald jokes about "monkeying with monkey-nuts," but the importance of the plan deserves more serious consideration.

It was just two years ago to-day that Frank Samuel, managing director of the United Africa Co. Ltd., submitted a proposal for the mechanised production of ground-nuts in Tanganyika to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Minister of Food. The suggestion provided for the clearing and planting with monkey-nuts—or peanuts, if you prefer it—of over 2,500,000 acres miles away from anywhere. According to his statistics, this acreage, when fully planted, would produce 500,000 tons of nuts which, in turn, would produce 200,000 tons of oil and 300,000 tons of cattle cake. The oil, Mr. Samuel reckoned, would produce 235,000 tons of margarine, which would be the equivalent of an extra ration of 13 lbs. of margarine for 40,000,000 people.

Until the war, most of the vegetable oils for margarine came from India and the Far East. Owing to the increased standards of living, however, and the rising population, these vegetable oils are being consumed on the spot and not being exported.

With the world shortage of fats in view, the Government sent out a mission to check on Mr. Samuel's suggestion. After detailed and extensive enquiries in East Africa, the mission reported favourably and with commendable promptitude exactly three months after they had set out. Because of the urgency of the situation, the Ministry of Food invited the United Africa Company to get on with the job immediately as their agents until the Government itself could take over. For this purpose they formed the Overseas Food Corporation, which will assume all responsibilities for the management of the Ground-nut Scheme next week. The original estimate that within a year 150,000 acres would be planted with ground-nuts proved far too optimistic. In fact, only 15,000 acres were cleared by the end of the first year. Of these, only 7,500 were planted. The result is that this year's harvest will only total a trifle over 2,500 tons of ground-nuts—all of which will be needed as seed.

Next year's crop will also be required as seed, so that it will not be until 1950 that there will be any visible return for the outlay of ultimately over £30,000,000 of public money. But in view of the vast growth in the world's population during the past ten years, in spite of the World War, and the increase in the standard of living of the more primitive peoples, the gamble—as its opponents call it—is well worth while.

The difficulties have been, and continue to be, immense. To begin with, many of the areas selected are infested with the tsetse fly which, though it occasionally attacks human beings, is primarily a menace to cattle, but therefore makes it almost impossible for the natives to live there. The tsetse fly breeds in the thorn-bush, the clearance of which is essential to the scheme. Unfortunately, the tough and pliant roots of these thorn-bushes proved too much for the rooting machines originally secured for the purpose. It had been hoped to secure 200 heavy tractor units from the U.S.A., but these were not available; only second-hand surplus war stores, mostly in the Philippine Islands, could be obtained. In despair, the pioneers of the clearing scheme tried to convert a Valentine tank. It, too, proved quite useless, and the scheme has still to depend on ex-Army stores. Fortunately, a contract was made with a Canadian firm for all the agricultural machinery required for the first two years.

Another difficulty was the lack of skilled local carpenters, plumbers, masons, fitters, lorry and tractor drivers. To meet this shortage, 200 Italian mechanics were recruited on short-term contracts; while two tractor schools were opened to teach the natives how to drive. Within four months 700 had been passed as proficient, only one in eight failing to qualify.

At present, both the European and the African staffs are living in tents, though plans for the layout for the first village have been approved. Health is an all-important factor, and in addition to thirty-four people who have been appointed to the Medical Department, 200 Africans are being trained as medical auxiliaries. Since the opening of the temporary hospital there have been over 20,000 attendances by the native staff. Kongwa being 3,800 ft. above sea-level, however, the mean temperature is only in the middle 80's. Basic English is also being taught on the same system adopted by the Indian Army during the war.

THE BULLDOZERS WHICH ARE OPENING A VAST AREA TO CULTIVATION: The vehicle park at Kongwa, Tanganyika, where the headquarters of the East African Ground-nut Scheme has been established. At the present moment all planting is taking place in this district, but eventually three regions, each of 450,000 acres, will be rendered fit for production, adding materially to the world's supply of fats

A BULLDOZER TEARS THROUGH VIRGIN TERRAIN: Preparing ground for cultivation in the Kongwa district of Tanganyika. Seven thousand acres of ground-nuts had been planted and 15,000 acres of elephant scrub had been cleared by the end of 1947 in the British Government's Ground-nut Scheme in Tanganyika. By the end of 1948, 150,000 acres will have been planted. Kongwa is the first area in production because, at the start of the scheme, it had the best communications—one dirt road, usable in the dry season only. In eight months a railway was built to join with the main line from Dar-es-Salaam to Kigoma. The other two major areas have concentrated during their first year on access roads

The greatest difficulty of all has been the lack of communications to and from Kongwa. There is only a single-line track for 250 miles from Dar-es-Salaam up to the railhead, and even this track has its embankments occasionally breached by floods. The Tanganyika railways, with their existing railway stock and port facilities, can handle only about 50,000 tons of nuts per annum over and above the present traffic. Much will have to be done, therefore, before the 500,000 tons forecast in the report can be shifted to the coast and thence by sea to England. The latest idea is to enlarge the harbour at Mikindani into a real port which could take big ships. Preparation is also being made to build a pipe-line from it to the southern province of the ground-nuts area.

All sorts of every kind of machinery and equipment are necessary for the over-all scheme. Landing-crafts and cranes, jeeps and lorries, power lathes and grinding machines, pumps and surveying equipment are being acquired as fast as possible. The Valentine tank having proved a failure, Sherman tanks are now being adopted as a temporary expedient until the Canadian tractors reach the spot.

The Kongwa enterprise is by no means the only one in the Ground-nut Scheme, and has only been pushed into prominence because it was the first of the many sections to be started. The main area is to be west of Lindi, the target of which is three times that of Kongwa. There is also Urambo. Work on all these projects is taking place simultaneously. The Lindi plantation has a great advantage—the finest natural harbour on the East African coast.

The ultimate benefit to this country is expected to consist not only of the extra margarine ration, but also an increase in the milk and butter ration. Those 300,000 tons of cattle cake can make an enormous difference to dairy farmers in this country. As for the East Africans, the scheme will rescue 3,000,000 acres from the bush, will drive back the tsetse fly, will introduce scientific farming and, by the use of fertilisers and rotational crops, will enrich the soil. The present plan envisages the growing for two years of ground-nuts and then two years of grassland, possibly with cattle. It is quite likely, however, that the ground will soon prove suitable for growing soya beans as well.

The interest of the United Africa Company, which has given its services free as managing agents, is not far to seek. It will benefit considerably from the rise in the standards of living throughout that quarter of the continent and, being wholly owned by Lever Brothers and Unilever Ltd., it will benefit the parent companies which depend so largely on the world production of oils and fats for their continued prosperity.

So far the results have been, admittedly, disappointing. But the native labour force had not altered its crude agricultural equipment for centuries and at first were by no means mechanically-minded.

Several disparaging questions have been asked in Parliament recently about the scheme, but the Government has stuck to its guns. In principle, there is a distinct analogy between the carrying-out of the plan and certain military operations of World War II. The criterion to be applied is that by which the success of the initial phases of a modern military operation is judged, rather than those usually applied to a commercial enterprise. The two most important factors are supplies and transport for the building-up and deployment of the vast quantities of operational and maintenance stores and equipment. The East African Ground-nut Scheme is still in the phase of building up the bridgehead and consolidating the organisation. True, the acreage of land cleared is far behind schedule, but the experience of the first six months of bush-clearing has not brought to light any unforeseen factors except for the unexpected toughness of the roots of the Kongwa thorn-bush. As soon as a proper supply of the suitable rooting machines has been secured, the ultimate target should be reached.

There is, of course, always the risk of droughts and epidemics, but, as I said originally, no plan of such heroic proportions can fail to encounter discouraging experiences, which can only be met by heroic measures.

PAPER SALVAGE—and why: Following a recent appeal made in Parliament by the President of the Board of Trade, a concerted effort is to be made to collect an additional 100,000 tons of paper by July. The serious and urgent need for this new effort is twofold: (1) To save expenditure of dollars on paper and paper-making materials from North America. The collection of 100,000 extra tons in six months would be equivalent to a saving of 10,000,000 dollars. (2) Maintenance of supplies of paper and cardboard, essential for the packing and protection of export goods and for home food distribution. There is an urgent need for an additional 200,000 tons of paper-making materials a year. This quantity is fortunately available in this country in the form of waste paper, and if every home could save an extra pound of waste paper each week, we should meet this need. The amount of paper lost in dustbins or by burning is 100,000 tons per annum. That is, half the additional amount required. Over 100,000 tons of paper are needed by the building trade each year. Waste paper can supply the bulk of this amount. Part of the fibre content of building boards (for wall and ceiling linings), roofing and damp-course felts is provided by repulped paper. For blueprints and cement bags large quantities of paper are also needed. Every household is asked to put out 2 lbs. of paper each week. The following would contribute 2 lbs. of waste: a copy of the *Radio Times* (1½ ozs.); six penny daily newspapers (6 ozs.); three average-sized cartons (sugar, soap, breakfast cereals) (3 ozs.); one Sunday paper (1½ ozs.); twelve cigarette cartons (3 ozs.); wrapping papers and bags from the shops (8 ozs.); six used envelopes (½ oz.); six evening papers (5 ozs.); one weekly magazine (2 ozs.); old letters, bills and receipts and bus and cinema tickets (1½ ozs.)

FOUR NEW MUSICAL SHOWS

English and American Stars in London's Lighter Entertainment

"ANNIE OKLAHOMA" AND "BOBBY GET YOUR GUN": Binnie Hale and Bobby Howes renew a famous partnership in "Four, Five, Six!" at the Duke of York's Theatre. Sonnie Hale, who was to have co-starred with his sister in the second edition of their revue, went sick a week before the first night and had to leave the cast to have an operation. It looked as though the show might have to be postponed, until a lucky chance brought Bobby Howes into the theatre. In five days he had learnt his part and the show opened only a week late. It was an immediate success, the two stars receiving a special ovation when they recalled their partnership in *Mr. Cinders* in 1929. The revue has some witty lyrics and sketches, and Binnie Hale and Bobby Howes have first-rate comedy support from Vida Hope and Bill Fraser, with a cleverly-timed sketch, *These You Might Have Loved*. Binnie Hale and Bobby Howes last appeared together in 1944

"THE BOLTONS REVUE" AT ST. JAMES'S THEATRE: Reg Varney and Daphne Anderson in the number "Tiddely," which closes the first part of the show. For the first time in its history, St. James's Theatre has a revue on its stage—*The Boltons Revue*, which comes from one of London's brightest "little" theatres. Daphne Anderson and Billy Milton are the mainstays of the show, but some excellent individual items are provided by Reg Varney and Richard Gilbert, whose popular violinist in "I Fiddle for the Million" is one of the best things in the show. *The Boltons Revue* is directed by Billy Milton

"SKID" RETURNS ON THE EVE OF THE OPENING NIGHT OF LEFTY'S BURLESQUE SHOW: The dramatic scene towards the end of the new musical version of "Burlesque," at the Princes Theatre. Bonar Colleano plays "Skid"; Sydney James, "Lefty"; and Marjorie Reynolds, "Bonny." When *Burlesque* was first produced in London, in 1928, it brought a new American star to the London stage—Claire Luce. Now, twenty years later, another American, Marjorie Reynolds, is playing the part of Bonny, leading lady of the Burlesque company in Jack Hylton's new production at the Princes Theatre

MR. AND MRS. BILL JOHNSON: The star of "Annie Get Your Gun" visited his wife, Shirl Conway, in her dressing-room at the Palace Theatre, where she is appearing in "Carissima." The new Eric Maschwitz musical comedy has music by Hans May and colourful scenes by Professor Ernst Stern and Leon Davey. Shirl Conway is the non-singing star of the show, which has some catchy tunes, sung by Lester Ferguson and Elizabeth Theilmann

The World of Books—By VERNON FANE

A WEEK OF MANY NOVELS

William Medium is a Curious Character, and Edward Hyams Portrays Him with Skill, even if Discursively; Pamela Frankau "Comes of Age" in Her Latest Novel

THIS has been a week of novels, with no books of that type known to booksellers as "general," or even, less amiably, "miscellaneous." But the novels themselves have been interesting enough and, in one case, even stimulating.

WILLIAM MEDIUM (Bodley Head. 10s. 6d.) is a story told at length and discursively, in the pattern of the nineteenth-century writer, by Mr. Edward Hyams, who has chosen as the central character for his study a man of cold sensuality, greed and petty cunning. Nevertheless, the book is not without its quality, which lies chiefly in the sombre and slightly mannered writing, but also, though to a lesser degree, in the display of erudition which approaches the naïve and has all the charm of the freshly discovered.

I can't say that I care for the title, which suggests spiritualism rather than the healthy "norm" to me, and there are other tricks of style which irritate by their portentousness, but in the main, this is a novel to be taken seriously, even by those readers who will regard the subject as pathological.

Medium, who tells his own story, is a get-rich-quick character, amoral rather than immoral, and avidly receptive of all the short cuts to fortune, through whatever byways they lead. Unfortunately for him, in almost all his business deals, which are concerned mostly with promotion or advertising with a little gun-running on the side, he loses the biggest prize in the end by being just that little bit too clever for his own good or, it goes without saying, for anyone else's good.

It's a curious book and an interesting one, though never either warm or likeable.

Miss Pamela Frankau has another sort of problem to expound, and does it with the same conviction, but with infinitely more grace. SHAKEN IN THE WIND (Heinemann. 10s. 6d.) is part of the story—it is not banal enough to attempt to tell the whole story—of an English girl who marries an American. She is a high-ranking officer in the A.T.S., an agnostic, intellectually though not physically a Puritan, and has had her heart well and truly broken by the death of the man she loved.

The American is as good-looking as she, but has nothing much else in common, except a facile over-education. He is a practising Catholic, a soldier-cum-journalist, and drinks rather too much. They go, reluctantly on her part, eagerly on his, back to his native California, where she is faced with the difficult adjustment to a strange family, strange customs and, most subtle and unmanageable of all, a strange woman who shares more than her husband's religion.

Miss Frankau has, I would say, come of age in this novel; has dropped many of her neat little, taut little mannerisms, and has written the novel that those who were interested in her earlier work had been waiting for with patience. It is not wholly satisfying or even conclusive, but it is a mature piece of work, with thought and sensibility behind it, and humour to lighten it. And for that, the discriminating will be grateful.

Miss Elizabeth Goudge's new novel is incredibly, incurably and in many ways innocently romantic. It is written with the competence that attracts popularity, and the confidence that assures it. In other words, I think it will be a very solid best-seller, and will mean dreamless and soothing hours of reading for thousands of readers.

THE HERB OF GRACE (Hodder and Stoughton. 10s. 6d.) is the name of an old inn, situated in the salt marshes of Hampshire, which is new country for at least one of those thousands of readers. The place was originally built to accommodate pilgrims, and its immense age gives it a gentle and welcoming quality that acts as a balm, though in different ways, on the General and his beautiful wife, who buy it after the war for themselves and their numerous brood of children.

It would be inexact to call this a love-story; inexact and inadequate, since the story contains at least four tales of happy and unhappy loves, but certainly devotion and sacrifice are the keynotes of its whole literary plan, and richly Miss Goudge emphasises and colours these motifs. Children, dogs, apparitions and orphans people these pages, and a beautiful and autocratic grandmother (whom I persistently saw as played by Dame Sybil Thorndike), directs their destinies.

"THIS STUFF IS GOOD, BUT THERE IS NOT ENOUGH OF IT": Andy, celebrated orang-outang at the Bronx Zoo, New York, eating his first ice-cream cone. He seems to have more of it on the outside of his mouth than there is on the inside

WONDERS OF THE ABACUS—ANDY BEGINS HIS STUDIES: The Bronx Zoo's orang-outang catches up on his mathematics and also entertains the visitors

I would never admit that I found adolescence in others repellent—unlike a brilliant and middle-aged lady who is said to have complained of the "horrid bloom" of the young, but there is something both adolescent and unseemly about the central idea of BARBARY COURT (Chapman and Hall. 9s. 6d.), by Shamus Frazer.

This is the story of a rich young baronet with a fantastic country mansion to which, in quick succession, he lures—and the highly-coloured word is not inappropriate—six good-looking young women, and, finally, a seventh, with the idea of establishing a comfortable polygamy for himself. He keeps them safely in a well-aired and luxurious underground cavern, visiting from time to time for platonic dinners, giving them Cartier jewels and Schiaparelli dresses, and hoping that they will all attain a state of submission in which they will be glad to marry him.

Some of them do and some of them don't, and the situation is spicy rather than witty, until the seventh girl arrives, and succeeds in breaking the party up. In the meantime, the baronet, who lives mainly above ground, has been abroad on dangerous and presumably patriotic missions which have precisely nothing to do with the plot, unless it is to show that every cad has his silver lining, and the end of the book tails off into a flat conventionality.

Romance again, with Jocelyn Playfair's THE DESIRABLE RESIDENCE (Hodder and Stoughton. 8s. 6d.), which is one of those stories in which a house, this time an empty one, exerts influence over the living people who visit it. The house is a dwelling of no more than comfortable size, and remote, situated in the country. It is for sale and the local garage owner, who has done pretty well for himself during the war, when members of the U.S. forces were stationed nearby, drives a series of people over to look at the place.

All of them feel its attraction, and yet all, in the end, fail to buy it, and it is left solitary, with the woman who used to own it, and whose husband fell to death from one of its windows, wandering through the garden. The prospective tenants have, as the common denominator, the necessity of adjusting themselves to domestic life after the war, but nothing else links their stories, and this device makes for an episodic story with insufficient balance.

And now for the brisk and lively air that blows, and, in fact, practically whistles, through the pages of Mr. Michael Innes's detective story, A NIGHT OF ERRORS (Gollancz. 8s. 6d.). Murder and arson and each in abundance, are represented here, and if there is any romance, it is strictly secondary to the main themes of violence. Here is a very different kind of country house, and one that is far from deserted. In fact, for most of the night in question it is thickly peopled with corpses, whether lambent or not, with firebugs, assassins and heirs who have been cheated out of their rightful fortunes.

THE CASE OF THE DARK STRANGER (Sampson Low. 8s. 6d.) is rather more straightforward, but has its points, too. Mr. Moray Dalton writes pleasantly, and without affectation, of an Italian-English vendetta and its surprising consequences.

BERNARD MILES SURVEYS THE BRITISH THEATRE

An Appeal for Cheaper Seats and Less Commercialism

Bernard Miles has won a foremost place in British films, and in *Great Expectations* and *Fame is the Spur* he revealed himself to tens of thousands as a first-class character actor. Despite these screen successes, however, Mr. Miles is really a man of the theatre; we must make no mistake about that. Eighteen years have passed since he was one of the messengers in Balliol Holloway's production of *Richard III* at the New. His stage experience has since been immensely wide. Bernard Miles, indeed, knows the stage inside out, and, what is more, he has the ability to write about it with vigour. In THE BRITISH THEATRE (Collins. 5s.) he has contributed a first-class book to the "Britain in Pictures" Series, and if sometimes he strikes a highly individual note, well so much the better. Towards the close Mr. Miles makes an appeal for the return of the poetic play and for the establishment of a go-ahead State Theatre. This player, a man very much of his own mind, wants, too, to see the pensioning-off of some of the theatrical adventurers who still strut their way across the West End, and a return once more to the Elizabethan sharing system. His final plea is for a reduction in the price of seats to make it possible for a man to take his girl friend out to dinner and the theatre for less than the statutory fiver that would now seem to prevail in Shaftesbury Avenue and district. To most of this the reader will say bravo Bernard Miles, and congratulations on resisting the temptation to produce a pot-boiler.

When Dostoievsky wrote his masterpiece CRIME AND PUNISHMENT, his story of the poor student Rashkolnikov, who is led on to commit a murder partly by self-conceit and partly through contemplation of the abject misery around him, he electrified the reading public by his remarkable faculty in awakening reverberations of melancholy and compassion. More than that he gave currency to a number of ideas; the theory, for instance, that in every life, however fallen and degraded, there are ecstatic moments of self-devotion, the doctrine of purification by suffering, and the ideal of the Russian people forming a social state at some future period bound together by no obligation, save mutual love and the magic of kindness. To compress the essence of this theorising into the space of a three-act play, to fuse together a markedly mixed bunch of human oddities to fit the theatre, not forgetting the plots and sub-plots in which Dostoievsky revelled, and at the same time to retain the poignancy of the original, has been the task of Rodney Ackland. The success of his dramatised version of *Crime and Punishment* is proof of his dexterity, as those who saw Anthony Quayle's London production of it in 1946 can testify. Now this remarkable distillation of the novel is available in book form. It is a play exciting in its own right. The publishers are Sampson Low. The price is 7s. 6d.

BEST AMERICAN DETECTIVE STORIES OF THE YEAR (Nimmo Hay and Mitchell. 10s. 6d.) may have a rather presumptuous title, and the editor of the collection does not impress when he writes in his introduction such bromides as "fiction is always a matter of taste." Most of the stories are effective, however, and in "Just a Minute, Dr. Marlowe," Marie Beynon Rey contributes a well-told and unusual tale based on her knowledge of the technical aspects of psychiatry. It is a practical certainty that in the near future we shall see a flood of such psychiatric stories.

IN ENGLAND AND IN ENGLISH (Art and Educational Publishers. 8s. 6d.) William Goldman has edited a collection of modern stories by Jewish writers. His own contribution, "A Youthful Idyll," is an imaginative piece of writing of the first order. London's East End is the setting, and the hard reality of life amid its mean streets is portrayed both with sensitivity and restraint.

Freda Derrick was born in Cheltenham at the foot of the Cotswolds. Many years spent in rambling across that delightful countryside have given her a deep knowledge of the native architecture. In COTSWOLD STONE (Chapman and Hall. 9s. 6d.) she tells the story of the local craftsmen and their work, and appeals for the continuance of a fine tradition.

In a purple cummerbund or jacket strip added to the dust jacket, the publishers declare "for the first time in human history The Lord's Prayer is portrayed in pictures." This is a hardly dignified approach to this publication entitled OUR FATHER (Evans Brothers. 21s.), in which Frank O. Salisbury depicts in a series of paintings the greatest prayer in the Christian world, and some may feel that a worthy idea has failed for lack of inspiration and the right treatment.

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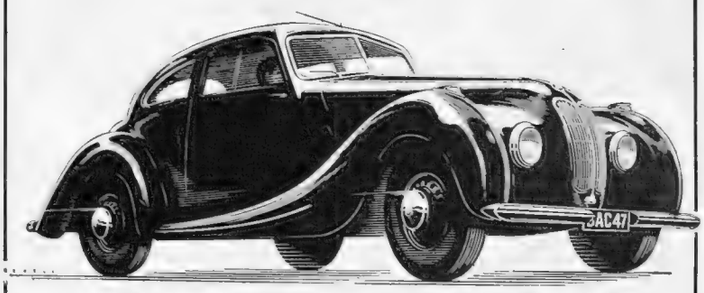

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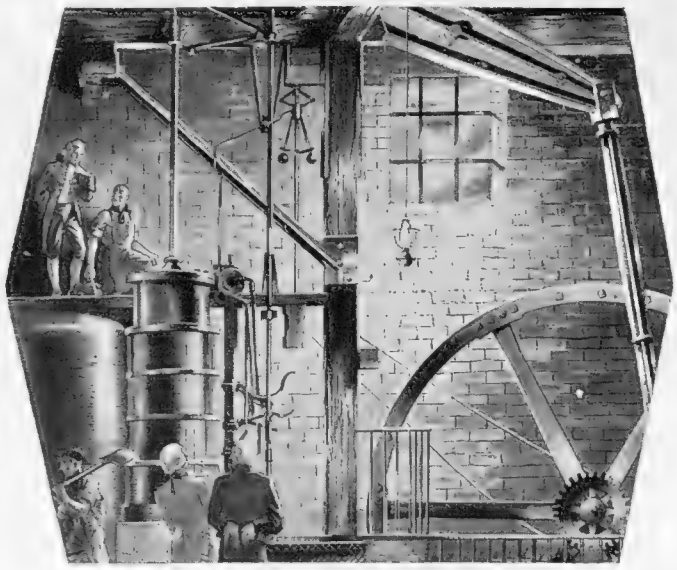

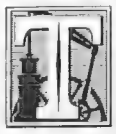

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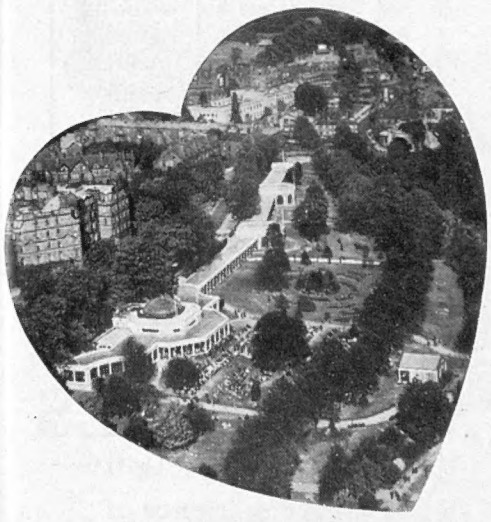

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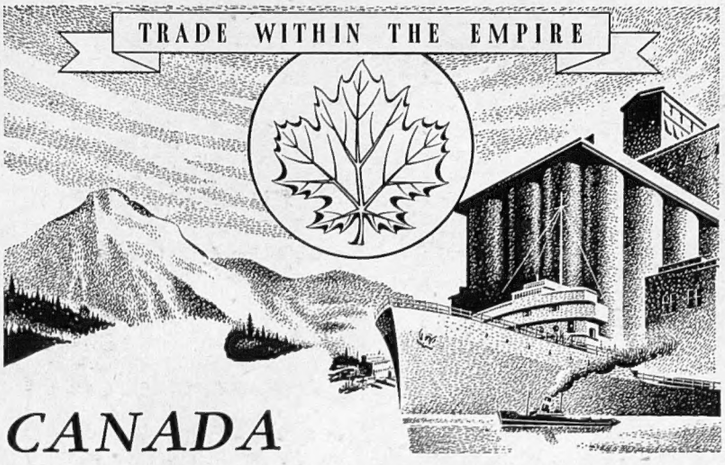

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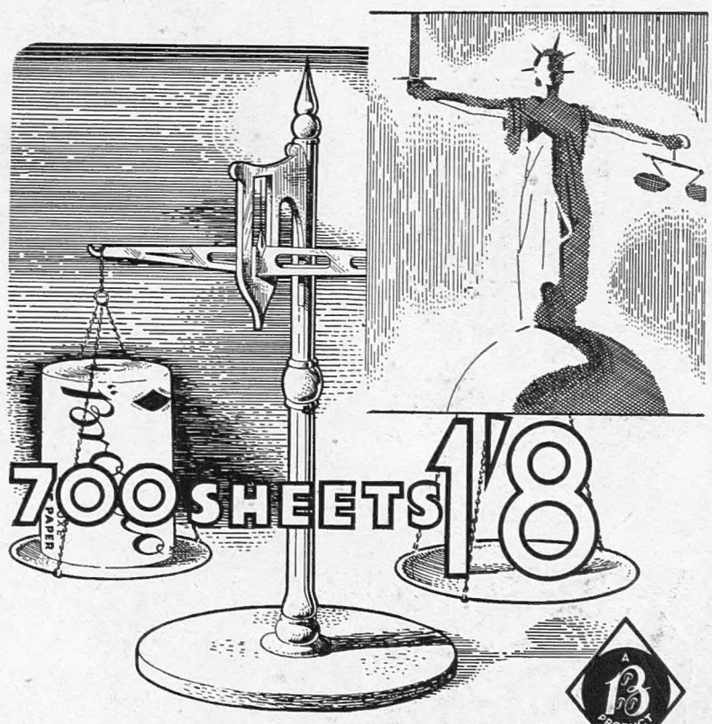

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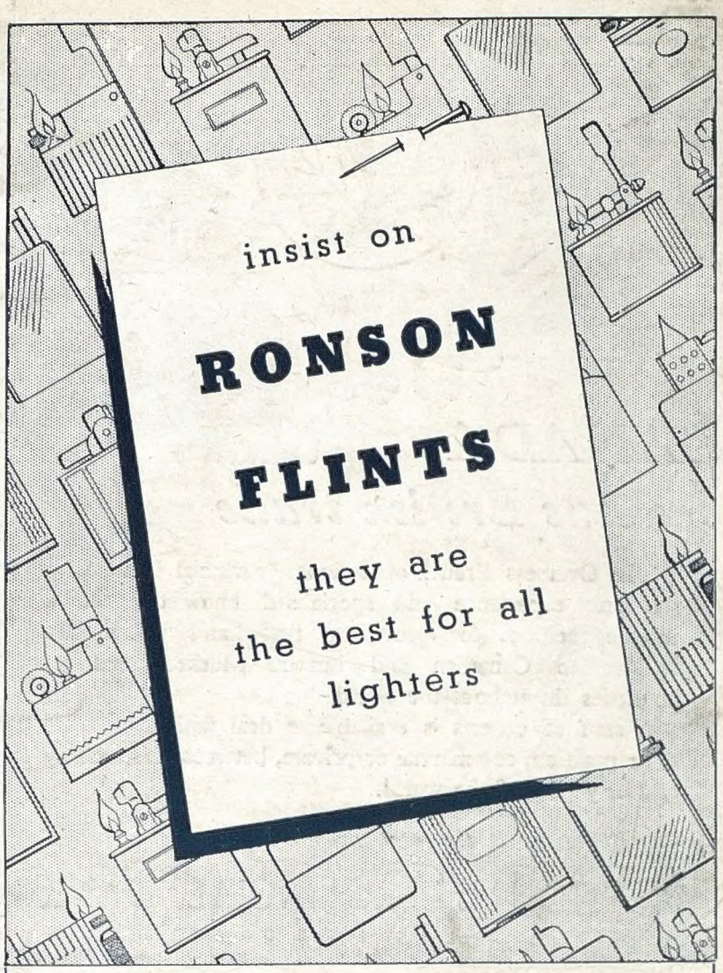

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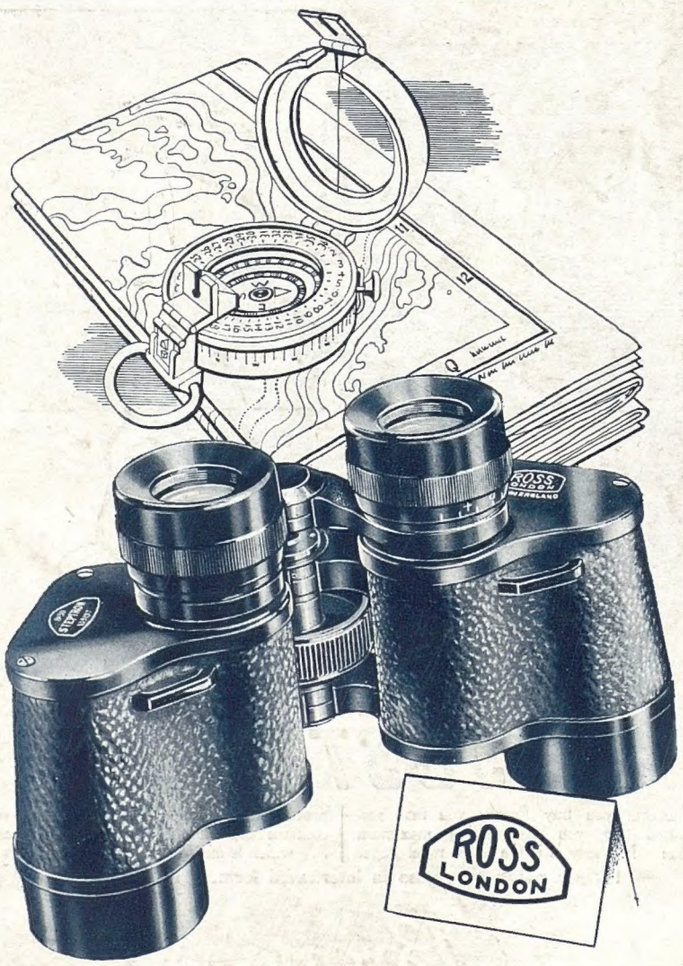

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